



### **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:

Holly Coffman

Catholic Youth Ministries (CYM):

Terra Atkinson

Cemetery Committee:

Marlene Rowe

Custodian:

Holly Coffman

Eucharistic Adoration:

Carmen Andrade

Finance Council:

Joe Koenig

Flocknote:

Robin Markham

Knights of Columbus:

Frank Handley

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:

K. Jones, M. Stephens

Alternate Sacristans:

E. Scouten, C. 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

<b>First Saturday,</b>	<b>October 2</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Conrado Lancion
4:30 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:00 PM	MASS: SI – All Parishioners
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>October 3 – 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
	<b>Respect Life Sunday</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Christopher Allen
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>October 4 – NO MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>October 5</b>
5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: +Yolanda I. de Quintanilla
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>October 6</b>
5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: +Virginia Reed
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>October 7</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Walter Israel
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>October 8</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Andy Brown, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Anniv.
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>October 9</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – Chua Family, In Thanksgiving
4:30 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:00 PM	MASS: SI – All Parishioners
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>October 10 – 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Bill Utaki



**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.

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

### **MASKS ARE OPTIONAL IN CHURCH!**

**BISHOP TAYLOR ANNOUNCED EFFECTIVE MAY 15-16, 2021 MASK WEARING IS OPTIONAL.** His letter of May 9, 2021 stated: I believe that due to the universal availability of the vaccine, we can now make mask-wearing optional, effective May 15-16. In addition, Communion on the tongue during Mass is now allowed. I do recommend, but do not require, continued mask-wearing for those who are not yet fully vaccinated or who are otherwise especially vulnerable.

People who have questions about obligation to attend Mass, please see Father Jim or Deacon Mark.

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

**SECOND COLLECTION TODAY** is for Building Maintenance.

The "New Pentecost" Prayer Group meets in the Parish Hall after Sunday's 8:30 AM Mass. Everyone is welcome. Come Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of your faithful!



**BINGO TODAY – Sundays, October 3 & 17, at 2 PM.** Invite a friend! Doors will open at 1 PM. Proceeds benefit local charities. Participants must be at least 18 years old.

**Knights of Columbus will meet this Monday, October 4,** for Fellowship Meal at 6:30 PM and Meeting at 7:30 PM.

### **MUSIC MINISTRY**

**HANDBELLS – Mondays at 6:15 PM in Parish Hall.**

**YOUTH CHOIR/HANDCHIME CHOIR – To be announced.**

**ADULT CHOIR** will meet on Thursdays at 6:30 PM in Sanctuary & Sundays at 7:45 AM. Interested in joining our music ministry? For more info, contact Julie Jasper at 870-688-9369 or [julesjasper93@gmail.com](mailto:julesjasper93@gmail.com).



**Blessing of Pets will be this Wednesday, Oct. 6.** Gather in front of Parish Hall at 5:50 PM. All pets must be leashed or crated. No pets are allowed inside the church or parish hall.

### **PREP (Parish Religious Education Program) –**

This Wednesday's schedule is:

5:00 PM Rosary & Confessions  
 5:30 PM MASS: Led by High School Class  
 5:50 PM **Blessing of Pets (In Front of Parish Hall)**  
 6:00 PM Dinner for Students/Teachers/Family  
 6:30-7:30 PM **Classes: K-7 & High School**



**Legion of Mary 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.

The Knights of Columbus and the Trail Life Troop would like to invite everyone to join us for the Fall Parish Picnic at the pavilion at **Noon next Sunday, October 10.** Hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, chips, dessert, and drinks will be served. During the picnic the Trail Life Troop will be dedicating the new fire pit by holding a flag retirement ceremony. Bingo will follow. We hope to see everyone there.



**MONTH OF THE**  
*Rosary*



**Welcome to Our New Catholic!** Finnian Miles McFadden, son of Joe & Audrey McFadden, celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism on Friday, September 24. May Finnian and his family continue to receive God's many blessings!

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** – Military & Emergency Personnel, Victims of Natural Disasters, COVID-19 & Terrorism, Vocations, Carl Bell, Cindy Benner, Donnie Billups, Sue Brain, Richard Braun, William Bray, Ray Brysch, Betty Burge, Caven James Clark, Loretta Clements, Brian Coffman, Larry/Rita Coffman, Jim/Karen Conner, Mary Decker Family, RoseAnn Dirst, Lorraine Dix, Dave/Bruce Durand, Glen Feldman, John Forrest, Greg Foster, Casey Gibbs, Edmund/Mary Griggs, Bill/Levi Haley, Chris Haley, Pete Hartman, Leon/Russell Heard, Lorita Henry, Molly Hetrick, Dianne Hoberock, Connie Israel, Chris Jasper, Joyce Kester, Emory Keys, LaDonna King, Dr. Charles Klepper, Mary Koenig, Dennis Kyler, Patti Long, Val Lopez, Michael Lowery, Bill/Ann May, Janice Munzner, Mollie Norman, Deb O'Connor, Nikki Patten, Eliska Pollock, Kathy Robinson, Ken Rudisel, Margaret Mary Schlacter, Dc. Mark Scouten, Ed/Yvonne Servis, Phil Sides, Bob Stephens, Pennie Sutton-Veach Family. Our Nursing Home Residents: Dan Allen, David Allen, Mary Allen, Terry Bodson, Steve Crawford, Lylia Laffoon, Alan Lasecki, Bonnie Lundblad, Mary Ralston, Giovanna Sandri, Billie Signer, Liz Smalley. **Please contact the office to add/delete names. Thanks!**

### → 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>

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Oct 3: Gn 2:18-24 / Heb 2:9-11 / Mk 10:2-16  
 Oct 4: Jon 1:1-2:2, 11 / Lk 10:25-37  
 Oct 5: Jon 3:1-10 / Lk 10:38-42  
 Oct 6: Jon 4:1-11 / Lk 11:1-4  
 Oct 7: Mal 3:13-20b / Lk 11:5-13  
 Oct 8: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2 / Lk 11:15-26  
 Oct 9: Jl 4:12-21 / Lk 11:27-28  
 Oct 10: Wis 7:7-11 / Heb 4:12-13 / Mk 10:17-30

### 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 & 1 PM**

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

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

**Thursday @ 11 AM, 3 PM & 4 PM**

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

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



**EVERY LIFE IS WORTH LIVING**

*Respect Life*



**HELP SAVE LIVES BY PRAYING FOR AN END TO ABORTION  
 SEPTEMBER 22 THROUGH OCTOBER 31.**

The dates for the Diaconate inquiry meetings are drawing near. Interested men and their wives are invited to attend any of the meeting locations. Any questions, contact Jasmine Hogan in the Faith Formation Office at the Diocese at 501-664-0340 ext. 323.

### **DIACONATE INQUIRY MEETINGS WILL BE HELD:**

Oct 4 – 6 PM – St. Joseph, 1722 N Starr Dr., Fayetteville

Oct 11 – 6 PM – St. Edward, 407 Beech St., Texarkana

Oct 18 – 6 PM – St. John the Baptist, 203 W. Ash St., Brinkley

**Encuentro Matrimonial is Marriage Encounter in Spanish** and is a program of 44 hours in which couples can leave work, children, housework, and telephone to focus only on each other. If you are looking to grow in your relationship, to make it more profound and to enrich it, then you will like the difference that a weekend of Worldwide Marriage Encounter can make in your lives. The next weekend will be held **October 15-17** at St. John Center. For more information or registration, call 870-642-2256 or 773-213-9593. Space is limited.

**Please join us in the 2021 Rosary Crusade for America's soul.** The Crusade is scheduled for 20,000 cities across America on **Saturday, October 16, at 11 AM. In Harrison, it will be held in front of Nopalitos Restaurant.** If you have any questions please call Carmen at 305-815-1795.

**Vatican International Exhibition of the Eucharistic Miracles of the World** – The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist is the most sublime treasure of our Catholic Faith. It is the manifestation *par excellence* of his promise, "I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Mt 28:20) Evidence of His abiding presence among us is beautifully chronicled in an edifying collection of 160 panels featuring photographs, narrative and maps. They depict 126 different Vatican-approved miracles occurring in 17 countries over a span of nearly 1,300 years. **St. Peter the Fisherman in Mountain Home is pleased to host this exhibition from Sunday, October 17 through Saturday, October 31, in the Parish Hall Life Center. Monday-Friday: 8 AM-6 PM; Saturdays: 2-6 PM; and Sundays 8 AM-2 PM.** Experience for yourself the way these miracles have inspired countless Catholics over the centuries and deepened their love for the Eucharist. This is an informal, self-guided exhibit you may visit as often as you wish before or after weekend Mass or the hours above during the week. We hope you avail yourself of this unique opportunity and invite family and friends to do the same.

**BISHOP MCDONALD MEMORIAL GOLF CLASSIC** - This year's golf tournament benefiting Catholic Charities of Arkansas will be Monday, **October 18** at the Diamante Country Club in Hot Springs Village. The cost of a four-person team is \$700 and includes continental breakfast, lunch and on course beverages. Tee times are 8 AM and 1:30 PM for a shotgun start and scramble format. Team prizes will be flighted and there will be contests for closest to pin, hole in one (\$5,000 prize) and longest drive. If golf is not your game, consider being a \$175 donor for a priest to play or a hole sponsor for \$500. You can register your team or make a donation/sponsorship pledge online at [bit.ly/ccg-golf](http://bit.ly/ccg-golf). For more information, contact Megan Moore at Catholic Charities of Arkansas at [mmoore@dolr.org](mailto:mmoore@dolr.org) or 501-664-0340.



### **ABOUT THE SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK – (Previously called “Last Rites”)**

This Sacrament is the way that Jesus through the Church cares for the person who is dying, but there is so much more to it. Please call (or have someone call for you) the church at 741-5234 when you are admitted to the hospital, or to hospice care for serious illness, or for surgery. (Medical personnel will not do this for you unless you direct them.)

**THE SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK** - The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick was instituted by Christ and is attested by Saint James. *“Is anyone among you sick? Let him call the Presbyters of the Church and let them pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.”* James 5:14-15

This Sacrament confers special grace which unites the sick person more intimately to the Passion of Christ for his good and for the good of all the Church. It gives comfort, peace, courage, and even the forgiveness of sins if the sick person is not able to make a confession. Sometimes, if it is the will of God, this Sacrament even brings about the restoration of physical health. (From: COMPENDIUM, Catechism of the Catholic Church: USCCB, 2006, pages 90-92.)

**The Diocesan Tribunal** - It is the mission of the Diocesan Tribunal to hear the cases of those who are divorced and who are petitioning the Church to make judgment on the possible invalidity of their marriage, due to some impediment, inadequate consent, or the inability to fulfill the duties of the married state. The Tribunal makes every effort to carry out its pastoral ministry in this process.

Petitions for decrees of nullity may be obtained from recognized Diocesan Tribunal advocates. These persons are specially trained in this work. Please contact our local advocates, **Deacon Mark Scouten at 870-741-1579 or Lucia McArthur at 407-288-3103**, for more info and the paperwork to present a petition.

### **BAPTISM GODPARENT / CONFIRMATION SPONSOR**

Being a baptism godparent/confirmation sponsor means actively being a good Catholic witness and example, a role model, and ready to give help and advice to the one baptized/confirmed.

When choosing a baptism godparent/confirmation sponsor, do consider the church requirements for a valid choice:

- Not a parent of the one being baptized/confirmed.
- Must be at least 16 years old.
- A practicing Catholic who is leading a good Christian life and is not invalidly married.
- Must have already made First Communion and been confirmed.

A baptized non-Catholic Christian may be a witness to the baptism, but only together with a Catholic godparent.

“If anyone is living in a marriage that has not been recognized by the Catholic Church, it would be wise to consult with a priest to see whether that situation might be rectified. It could be as simple as repeating your marriage vows quietly in front of a priest and receiving the Church’s blessing. In that way, one would become eligible to receive the sacraments of the Church, especially the Eucharist.” – *Arkansas Catholic*, Nov. 14, 2015, Father Ken Doyle  
**Contact Father Jim for more information.**



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!** – John Michael Talbot will be at MMG on **Sunday, Dec. 12 @ 2 PM.** No tickets required; a free-will offering for JMT Ministries will be appreciated. The Knights of Columbus will be serving a meal following the concert. More information will be provided next month.

Through the solitude of COVID I have composed a 40 Day Retreat called "Hermitage of the Heart." It is perfect for private or group reflection during Advent, Lent or ANYTIME! Watch for a special parish program coming soon! Enter your journey today and find "Peace, Prayer and the Presence of God!" – In Jesus, **John Michael Talbot**, Founder, Spiritual Father and General Minister, The Brothers and Sisters of Charity, Little Portion Hermitage. Visit [troubadourfortheLord.net](http://troubadourfortheLord.net).

**Little Portion Bakery – Are You Ready for Autumn?** Our Pumpkin Spice Granola has the perfect blend of cinnamon, cloves, ginger, nutmeg and pumpkin to welcome this season of harvest, color and thankfulness! As in all we do, this delicious granola is made with charity and offered to you with prayer for a blessed fall season. 100% Gluten-Free and 100% Delicious! Visit <https://www.littleportionbakery.org/>

### **Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children**

Pope Francis has said that respect for life is not just about the unborn child in the womb, but also about the least of our brothers and sisters. Yes, it is even upon the undocumented resident alien who has no voice but ours. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are all called to protect the voiceless.

Let us pray...

Good and gracious God,  
you blew into our nostrils the breath of life.  
You are the One to whom we owe our very existence.

Give us the courage to take that unpopular position  
of protecting those who have no voice,  
the unborn child in the womb  
to the person taking his or her last breath.

The life you have given us is a gift beyond measure.  
Embolden us to speak the truth  
about protecting the child, the elderly,  
and the one without a voice in the public square.

With thankful hearts, we ask all this of the One God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**New Informed Choices for Women Center Needs Volunteers** - The new Informed Choices for Women Center, located at 714 West Sherman Ave. in Harrison, needs volunteers during the week to help man their pro-life Christian outreach to women in crisis pregnancies. The non-profit Center provides a variety of options and services to women (and men) during and after their pregnancy, including free ultrasounds to bring their babies to full term and birth. This center is a blessing to our area and is an opportunity for us as Christians to get involved in the Respect Life ministry locally. If you can spare an hour or two a week to help in this effort, please call the Center at 870-280-3169 for more information. God will richly bless you.



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**The life you have given us is a gift beyond measure.  
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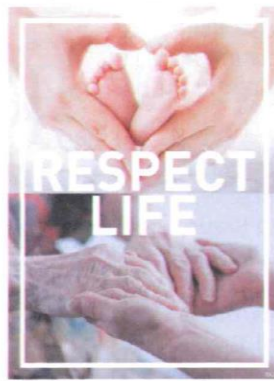


## Joseph F. Koenig, C.P.A.

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

### COFFMAN FUNERAL HOME

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Licensed Funeral Director & Preplanning Consultant  
**870-743-2021** [www.coffmanfh.com](http://www.coffmanfh.com)  
501 Old Bellefonte Rd, Harrison, AR 72601



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



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

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Phillip Collier,  
Co-Owner/Manager

### Selling 726

REALTY  
**Ryan Thompson, Realtor**  
[ryan@selling726.com](mailto:ryan@selling726.com) • 870.416.5123  
[selling726.com](http://selling726.com)  
128 N Willow St, Harrison, AR 72601



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Photo Quality Graphics  
No Minimum Orders  
No Setup Fees  
**870-715-2483**  
**870-715-2928**  
[www.impactees.com](http://www.impactees.com)

Owners: Todd & Lori Curry †

### MUNZNER PUMP COMPANY

Pump & Water Work of All Kinds  
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Pumps, Pressure Tanks,  
Water Conditioning & More  
Serving Harrison & ALL  
Surrounding Areas  
[robinmunzner@yahoo.com](mailto:robinmunzner@yahoo.com)



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



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**YES!! We Need You!!**

**YOU can be an active participant at  
Mary Mother of God Church!  
We want many people to volunteer  
so no one gets 'stuck' with certain  
ministries all the time!**

**Lector:** Read the Scripture readings  
During Mass.

**Rosary Leader:** Lead before Mass.

**Musician:** See or call Julie Jasper.

**Extraordinary Minister:** Distribute the  
Body of Christ during Communion.

**Altar Servers:** All youth who have  
celebrated their First Holy Communion.

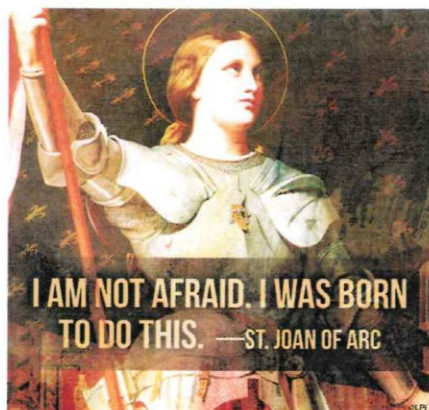
**Usher:** Greet people, guide them to  
empty seats, hand out bulletins after  
Mass, check pews after Mass for debris  
or loose hymnals/missalettes.

**Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and drop in collection basket.



**Skorich Lawn Care Company L.L.C.**  
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### BUTLER CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

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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

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

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



### Does God Forgive Abortion?

**Question:** Can a person (the mother, father, or provider) ever be forgiven for an abortion?

**Answer:** For people of faith, any conversation of human sinfulness should always lead us to reflect on God's loving mercy. Because God's mercy is greater than any sin, the Church is clear that even those involved in the sin of abortion can be reconciled with God and the Church. To help make this grace more available through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Pope Francis extended the permission to absolve someone of the sin of abortion to all priests in 2016.

Even with the grace and blessings of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the tragedy of abortion and the aftermath of abortion takes a toll on everyone involved. Ministries of outreach and support, such as Project Rachel, offer pastoral counseling, support groups, retreats, and other forms of care. As Christians, we are also called to help promote this healing and reconciliation in all its forms. To learn more, visit [www.hopeafterabortion.com](http://www.hopeafterabortion.com).

©LPi

# God Bless America!

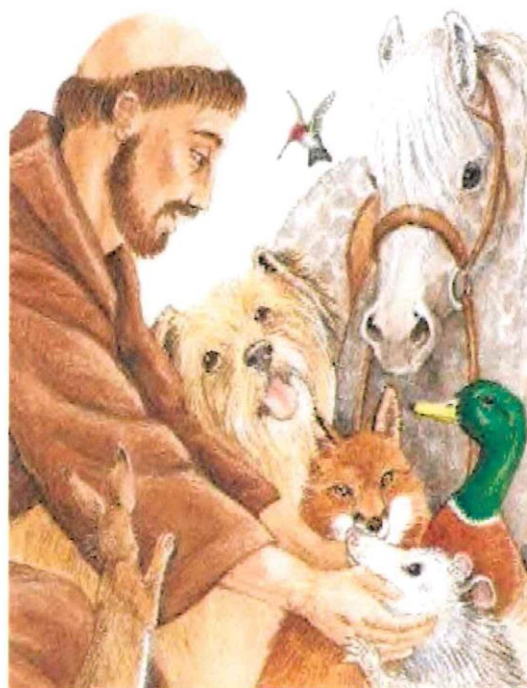
In Memory of Newt & Ruth Foster



Come celebrate St. Francis of Assisi's Feast Day and join us for the Blessing of the Pets.

Father Jim will be offering a special Blessing for your pets on Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> immediately following the 5:30pm Mass. Children and adults are encouraged to bring their pets and gather around the outside of the Parish Hall at 5:50 pm. Please note: all pets must be on a leash, or in a cage—sorry, but pets will not be able to enter the Parish Hall.

If you have any questions, please call Terra at (870)-754-4123, or Robin in the church office.





# St. Joseph

## Faithful Protector of Mother and Child

The infant Christ “came into our world in a state of great vulnerability. He needed to be defended, protected, cared for and raised by Joseph” (PC 5). The humble and often hidden carpenter of Nazareth accompanied Mary in her pregnancy, assisted at the birth of the Messiah in a stable, presented Jesus in the Temple, fled with his family far from their homeland to protect them, and lovingly raised Jesus as his own son in the years to come.

While the angel of the Lord appeared to Mary to announce that she would bring forth the Savior of the world, it was revealed to Joseph in a series of dreams how God’s plans would be brought to fulfillment. As Pope Francis highlights, “God trusted Joseph, as did Mary, who found in him someone who would not only save her life, but would always provide for her and her child” (PC 5).

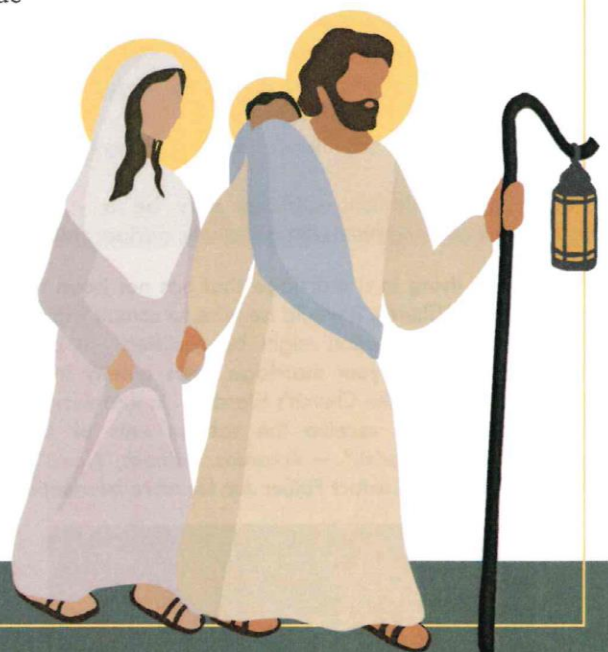
Dear St. Joseph,  
help us to  
imitate your  
faithful trust and  
courage.

Like every other human family, the Holy Family had to confront real and concrete challenges. Yet, “in every situation, Joseph declared his own ‘fiat’” (PC 3). His “yes” to the Lord meant that regardless of the hardship and personal sacrifice to himself, he consistently chose to put the needs of Mary and Jesus before his own. Joseph’s devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those whom God has entrusted to us.

During this Year of St. Joseph, each of us can find in him “an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble” (PC, Intro). Joseph shows us how to say “yes” to life, despite our own fears, frailties, and weaknesses. For it is Joseph who was “chosen by God to guide the beginnings of the history of redemption. He was the true ‘miracle’ by which God saves the child and his mother” (PC 5).

May we, too, be miracles in the lives of those who are most in need, especially at the beginning and end of life. Dear St. Joseph, you who were “able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence” (PC 5), help us to imitate your faithful trust and courage.

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>September 26</b> <i>26th Sunday in Ordinary</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>September 27</b>  <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>September 28</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>September 29</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass <b>6 PM PREP Dinner</b> <b>6-8 Confirmation Class</b> <b>6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 Class</b> <b>6:30 PM Parent Mtg. for Confirmation Class</b>	<b>September 30</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 5:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar	<b>October 1, 2021</b> <i>First Friday</i>  8 AM Patriotic Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>October 2</b> <i>First Saturday</i>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>October 3</b> <i>27th Sunday in Ordinary</i> <b>Respect Life Sunday</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Maintenance Fund ++ <b>2 PM BINGO</b>	<b>October 4</b>  <b>NO MASS</b> ++ Knights of Columbus 6:30 PM Dinner 7:30 PM Meeting	<b>October 5</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>October 6</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass <b>Blessing of Pets</b> <b>-- Gather at 5:50 PM In Front of Parish Hall</b> <b>6 PM PREP Dinner</b> <b>6:30-7:30 PM K-7 &amp; High School</b>	<b>October 7</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 5:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar	<b>October 8</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>October 9</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>October 10</b> <i>28th Sunday in Ordinary</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Parish Picnic & Trail Life Fire Ring Dedication	<b>October 11</b>  <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>October 12</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ Informed Choices Banquet ++ <b>NO CCW Meeting This Month</b>	<b>October 13</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass <b>6 PM PREP Dinner</b> <b>6-8 Confirmation Class</b> <b>6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 Class</b> ++ <b>Circle of Grace Opt-Out Forms Due Tonight</b>	<b>October 14</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 9 AM Rosary w/CCW Coffee/Sweets Follow in Parish Hall ++ 5:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar	<b>October 15</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>October 16</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass ++ <b>11 AM Rosary Rally In Front of Nopalitos</b>
<b>October 17</b> <i>29th Sunday in Ordinary</i>  8 AM Rosary <b>8:30 AM Youth Mass</b> ++ <b>2 PM BINGO</b>	<b>October 18</b>  <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>October 19</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>October 20</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass <b>6 PM PREP Dinner</b> <b>6:30-7:30 PM Circle of Grace</b>	<b>October 21</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 5:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar	<b>October 22</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>October 23</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>October 24</b> <i>30th Sunday in Ordinary</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: World Mission Sunday	<b>October 25</b>  <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>October 26</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>October 27</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ <b>6 PM PREP Dinner</b> <b>6:30-7:30 PM All Saints Celebration</b>	<b>October 28</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 5:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar	<b>October 29</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>October 30</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>October 31</b> <i>31st Sunday in Ordinary</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>November 1, 2021</b> <b>All Saints Day (Not a Holy Day of Obligation)</b>  <b>NO MASS</b> ++ Knights of Columbus 6:30 Fellowship Meal 7:30 PM Meeting	<b>November 2</b> <i>All Souls Day</i>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>November 3</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass <b>6 PM PREP Dinner</b> <b>6:30-7:30 PM K-7 &amp; High School</b>	<b>November 4</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 5:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar	<b>November 5</b> <i>First Friday</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>November 6</b> <i>First Saturday</i>  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.**

## OCTOBER 2021 MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR

### 5 PM Saturday Mass

Rosary: Greg Jasper  
Lector: Greg Jasper

E/M: Holly Coffman  
Elisabeth Scouten

Servers: **Volunteers Needed**

Ushers: Everett Burr  
Chuck Draper  
Terry Draper

### 8:30 AM Sunday Mass

Rosary: **Volunteers Needed**  
Lector: Bob Stephens

E/M: Mary Billups  
Andy Jensen

Servers: **Volunteers Needed**

Ushers: Al Hanson  
Regina Hanson  
Gerry Gokenbach  
James Virnig

**USHERS - ONCE AGAIN THE DIOCESE REQUESTS A MASS ATTENDANCE COUNT FOR OCTOBER. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!!**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Oct 1	Erin Rogers	Oct 14	Valerie Deen	Oct 22	Terra Atkinson
Oct 2	Theresa Holt	Oct 14	Casey McBride	Oct 22	Ashley Hardaway
Oct 2	Polly Leimberg	Oct 15	Adam Coffman	Oct 22	Lauren Hardaway
Oct 3	George Espinoza	Oct 15	Matthew Porras	Oct 22	Bobby Madison
Oct 3	Julie Penquite	Oct 15	Andrew Schneider	Oct 23	Stacy Burge
Oct 4	Danielle DeVito	Oct 16	Bill Bray	Oct 23	Robbie Taheny
Oct 5	Kevin Cheri	Oct 16	Kyle Whiteside	Oct 24	John Berry
Oct 6	Joseph McFadden III	Oct 17	Tim Osbaldeston	Oct 24	Cecilia Scott
Oct 8	Kathy McKelvy	Oct 18	Ricardo Aldape, Sr.	Oct 25	Ernest Boudreaux
Oct 9	Dee Burr	Oct 18	Levi Haley	Oct 25	Julie Cavin
Oct 9	Ruby Handley	Oct 18	Marie Kershaw	Oct 25	Logan Chapman
Oct 9	Isabella Hocut	Oct 19	Mary Christner	Oct 25	Jennifer Lampe
Oct 10	Nancy Smith	Oct 19	Kellie Mooneyham	Oct 25	Frances Zemlik
Oct 11	Anna Burge	Oct 20	Mary Fry	Oct 26	Nina Krone
Oct 11	Elizabeth Smalley	Oct 20	Jaycie Keylon	Oct 26	Collette Lavoie
Oct 11	Spencer Smith	Oct 21	Michael Popke	Oct 27	John Forrest
Oct 13	Donna Osbaldeston	Oct 21	Nicholas Popke	Oct 30	Marlene Rowe
Oct 14	Sandi Black	Oct 21	Loretta Wolfe	Oct 30	Jake Zemlik
Oct 14	Sabrina Cheri			Oct 31	John Duncan

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Oct 1	Robert & Valerie Deen	Oct 13	Andy & Leslie Jensen
Oct 1	Bill & Robin Markham	Oct 16	Everett & Dee Burr
Oct 2	Mike & Margie Stephen	Oct 17	Adan & Belin Juanitos
Oct 5	Jason & Jennifer Johnson	Oct 17	Jackson & Patricia Villines
Oct 7	Glen & Shirley Feldman	Oct 19	Gia & Glenn Dowell
Oct 9	Steve & Mary Richards	Oct 20	Steve & Donita DeVito
Oct 11	Caven & Eileen Clark	Oct 20	John & Wink Duncan
Oct 12	Michael & Tina Ford	Oct 22	Juan & Abigail Martinez
Oct 12	Jimmie & Rita Wells		

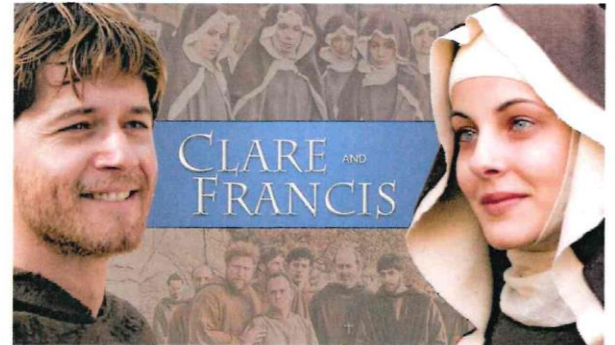


Oct 3, 2021

### WATCH

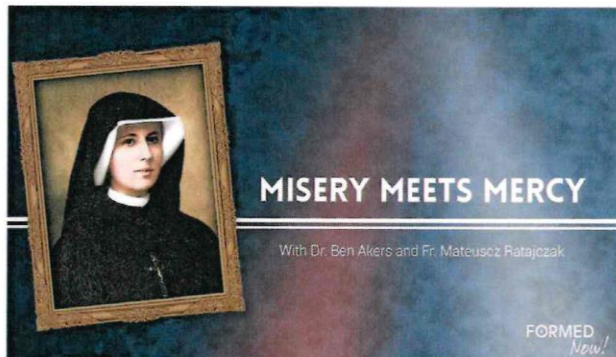
#### CLARE AND FRANCIS

This outstanding movie is unique among films about St. Francis because of the historical accuracy of the story and its authentic spirit of joy and piety so characteristic of Francis, as well as the major role played by Clare, who is given equal stature with him. Both found major religious orders, and together they inspire many to follow their radical call to live the Gospel. Their impact has reached across the centuries to change the world.



### LEARN

#### MISERY MEETS MERCY: ST FAUSTINA

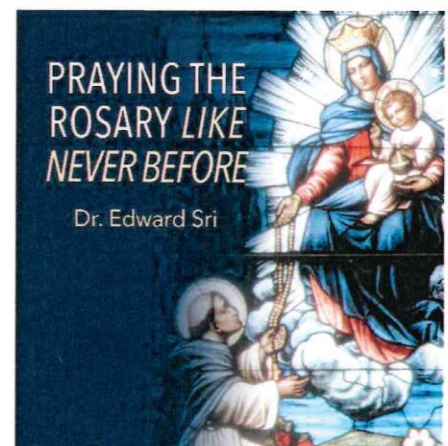


Dr. Ben Akers and Fr. Mateusz Ratajczak discuss St. Faustina Kowalska and her role of bringing the message of Divine Mercy to the Church..

### LISTEN

#### PRAYING THE ROSARY LIKE NEVER BEFORE BY DR. EDWARD SRI

In this Lighthouse Talk, Sri discusses the main tenets of his book, *The New Rosary in Scripture: Biblical Insights on Praying the Twenty Mysteries*. Dr. Sri shares Pope St. John Paul II's practical strategies for praying the Rosary better so you can encounter Jesus more deeply in prayer.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.

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

<u>MINISTRIES</u>	<u>Sat Mass</u>	<u>Sun Mass</u>	<u>Name &amp; 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!

# Prayer

**"COME BY YOURSELF TO AN OUT-OF-  
THE-WAY PLACE AND REST A WHILE"**

**MARK 6:31**

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**HERMITAGES FOR SHORT OR LONG-TERM VISITS**

**OPTIONAL SPIRITUAL DIRECTION**

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED -EMAIL PLEASE**

**DUE TO THE PANDEMIC, COVID-19 VACCINATION CARDS ARE  
REQUIRED TO FINALIZE YOUR RESERVATION**

**PLEASE CHECK STSCHO.ORG FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT  
SAFETY REGULATIONS**

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**HESYCHIA HOUSE OF PRAYER**

A mission of the Benedictine Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery

204 ST. SCHOLASTICA ROAD  
NEW BLAINE, AR 72851



HESYCHIA@STSCHO.ORG  
479-938-7375





## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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

Office of the Bishop

July 26, 2021

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock,

I have recently been asked whether the Diocese of Little Rock should re-impose restrictions such as mandatory mask-wearing, physical distancing and disinfection of surfaces in response to the recent surge in COVID-19 cases in Arkansas, 85% of which involve the highly infectious Delta variant. It has been suggested that since only 40% of Arkansans have been vaccinated, we need to do something to protect the other 60%, many of whom could be vaccinated but refuse.

It is important to note that with the universal availability of effective vaccines, the present threat is much different from that which occasioned the restrictions when COVID-19 first became a threat. Now, other than people with a medical condition that disqualifies them, anyone above age 12 can readily be vaccinated at no cost to themselves. As for those below age 12, for whatever reason, there have been very few serious cases involving younger children who may have some degree of natural immunity. The vaccine is effective in preventing most infections, even of the Delta variant, and vaccinated people who do become ill generally experience a much milder case than otherwise. Moreover, the vaccines are the best way to minimize the degree to which the virus can keep mutating. The vaccine's connection with abortion-derived fetal cell lines is very remote and our cooperation with such acts via receiving the vaccine is passive (no active cooperation) and so the Vatican has declared their use "morally acceptable" given the grave danger of the pandemic. Therefore, everyone who can be vaccinated has been repeatedly and strongly encouraged to do so—not only by me, but also even by Pope Francis—and so in the end, those who fail to do so have to be willing to accept the consequences of their decision. Diocesan policy will not be dictated by those who despite strong and clear encouragement, refuse to take the necessary steps to protect themselves and others. So for now, the only restriction that remains in place diocesan-wide is that the Precious Blood will continue not to be distributed to the faithful at Mass.

Having said that, given the principle of subsidiarity, individual parishes are free to take steps to address the threat locally. This could include making mask-wearing mandatory at one of their Masses, or setting aside one section of the nave for physical distancing and the exclusive use of mask-wearing participants.

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

July 16, 2021

Office of the Bishop

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock,

In view of the publication today of the Apostolic Letter "*Traditionis Custodes*" issued by Pope Francis in which he revokes, effective immediately, permissions regarding the use of the Roman Liturgy in place prior to the reform of 1970—the *Vetus Ordo* Mass (i.e., the Traditional Latin Mass, hereafter called the Latin Mass) granted by Pope Benedict XVI in his Apostolic Letter "*Summorum Pontificium*," it is incumbent on me as your bishop to indicate the implications of this change for our diocese.

Let me state clearly from the outset that the restrictions on the use of the Latin Mass imposed by *Traditionis Custodes* do not apply to our two personal parishes for the celebration of the Latin Mass: St. John the Baptist parish in Cabot and Our Lady of Sorrows parish in Springdale. There is no change for these parishes or the priests serving them. All that is required of them and the Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP) priests serving them is that they accept the validity and legitimacy of the liturgical reform of Vatican II, which they do. *Traditionis Custodes* does caution me not to establish any additional personal parishes for the celebration of the Latin Mass going forward.

To understand the reason for *Traditionis Custodes* and the need to revoke the provisions of *Summorum Pontificium*, it is important to realize that *Summorum Pontificium* sought to foster the healing of the schism of Archbishop Lefebvre and others who rejected not only the liturgical reforms of Vatican II but indeed often the Council itself. As it turned out, not only did *Summorum Pontificium* not achieve that purpose, the unintended result in many places was to create further division within parishes and among priests. *Traditionis Custodes* is the result of consultation among bishops in 2020 and seeks to foster unity by removing this source of division in our parishes. The main impact locally will be:

1) *Traditionis Custodes* (Art. 3, no. 2) indicates that the Latin Mass is not to be celebrated in regular parish Churches and so will no longer be celebrated in El Dorado, Mountain Home or Cherokee Village. I am to designate locations where the Latin Mass can be celebrated, and these are the personal parishes of St. John the Baptist in Cabot and Our Lady of Sorrows in Springdale.

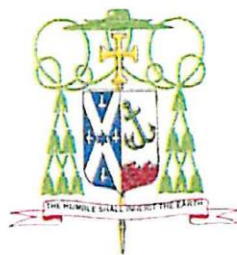
2) *Traditionis Custodes* (Art. 5) indicates that priests who already celebrate the Latin Mass must request permission from the bishop to continue to enjoy this faculty. Here, for non-FSSP priests, that would be exclusively for the private celebration of the Latin Mass since the public celebration of the Latin Mass in Arkansas is to occur only in the two personal parishes entrusted to the FSSP.

The *Novus Ordo* Mass is to be celebrated according to the rubrics provided for that Mass. The *Novus Ordo* Mass can be celebrated by any priest in any language, including Latin and Latin service music can always be used, but elements of the Traditional Latin Mass are not to be grafted onto the *Novus Ordo* Mass, regardless of whether it is celebrated in Latin or the vernacular.

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

July 9, 2021

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock,

With the spike in COVID infections and the presence of the Delta variant in Arkansas, a question has arisen whether we should re-impose restrictions to protect those who have not been vaccinated. The answer is generally NO, though the principle of subsidiarity would allow for this in isolated instances.

The reason not to re-impose restrictions is that the vaccine is universally available and highly effective against the disease. We have been very insistent in emphasizing that all who can receive the vaccine should do so, not only to protect themselves but also to protect the small number of people who due to a compromised immune system or other factors are not able to receive the vaccine. The failure to be vaccinated when one can is therefore a threat to the common good, which all Catholics have a duty to uphold. Since the vaccine is readily available and effective, there is no reason for the Church to re-impose restrictions, and those who could get vaccinated when they have the opportunity to do so, but don't and contract the disease as a consequence of their failure to get vaccinated have only themselves to blame. Moreover, those who are eligible but who fail to get vaccinated could also jeopardize the health and wellbeing of those who are currently ineligible or unable to be vaccinated—which is all the more reason to get vaccinated.

Of course, if the situation changes or evolves with respect to variants, vaccine efficacy or directives from the Governor of the State of Arkansas, the Diocese is certainly open to reassessing the approach we need to take.

Please remember that the dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation ended last October 1 for those who are in good health and not especially vulnerable or caring for someone who is especially vulnerable. As was announced at that time, 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. If you are in doubt, feel free to consult with your pastor regarding your specific situation.

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

May 9, 2021

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock,

Now that most Arkansans over the age of 16 have access to a coronavirus vaccination, I have sought the advice of the Presbyteral Council and the Diocesan Pastoral Council regarding next steps, and so today I am pleased to promulgate two things. First a further loosening of the anti-COVID 19 protocols that for over a year have prevented an outbreak of disease in any of our parishes and second, I would like to invite everyone to come to the Barton Coliseum for the ordination of 5 new priests for the Diocese of Little Rock at 10:00 am, Saturday May 29. This will be a special time to thank the Lord for bringing us through this pandemic so far and for providing us these new priests as we look to the future.

I believe that due to the universal availability of the vaccine, we can now make mask-wearing optional, effective next weekend, May 15-16. This gives vaccine-hesitant people one more week to at least get their first shot. In addition, Communion on the tongue during Mass is now allowed. I do recommend, but do not require, continued mask-wearing for those who are not yet fully vaccinated or who are otherwise especially vulnerable.

Also, I encourage all Arkansas Catholics to come to the ordinations at the Barton Coliseum on May 29. This will be an unforgettable experience! The Barton Coliseum holds 10,000 people, so there will be plenty of room for people to spread out.

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

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.

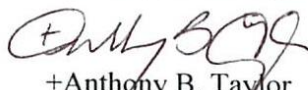
**Cry Rooms**—Can be used only if 6' distancing between family groups can be maintained.

**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.*

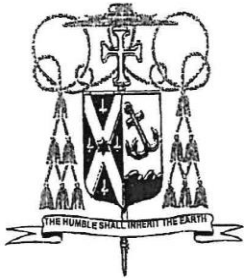
*“Pfizer and Moderna’s vaccines raised concerns because an abortion-derived cell line was used for testing them, but not in their production. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine, however, was developed, tested and is produced with abortion-derived cell lines raising additional moral concerns. The Congregation 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.

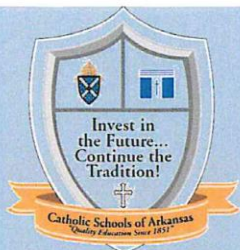
For those who enjoy a traditional newspaper mailed to your home, the print version is also available for only \$30 a year. In your pew today you will find subscription envelopes where you can subscribe to the print edition and find out how to sign up for your free digital account.

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

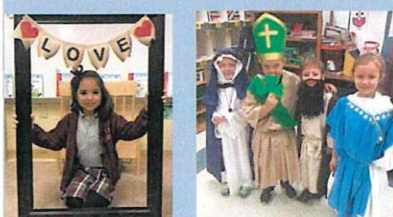
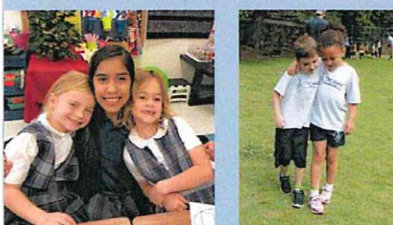
Diocese of Little Rock  
P.O. Box 7239  
Little Rock, AR 72217

*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.

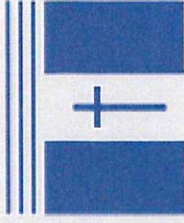
Sincerely In Christ,

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/](http://www.givecentral.org/arkansas/).

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

☐ Monthly/Mensualmente

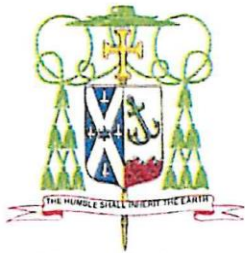
☐ One-Time Payment/Un solo pago

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,

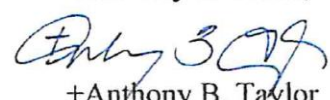
The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life, and our Sunday communal celebration of the Eucharist is a central and non-negotiable part of who we are as Catholics. However, in view of the threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, effective March 12, 2020 I dispensed everyone in the Diocese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



**Informed Choices**  
*Women's Center of the Ozarks*

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!

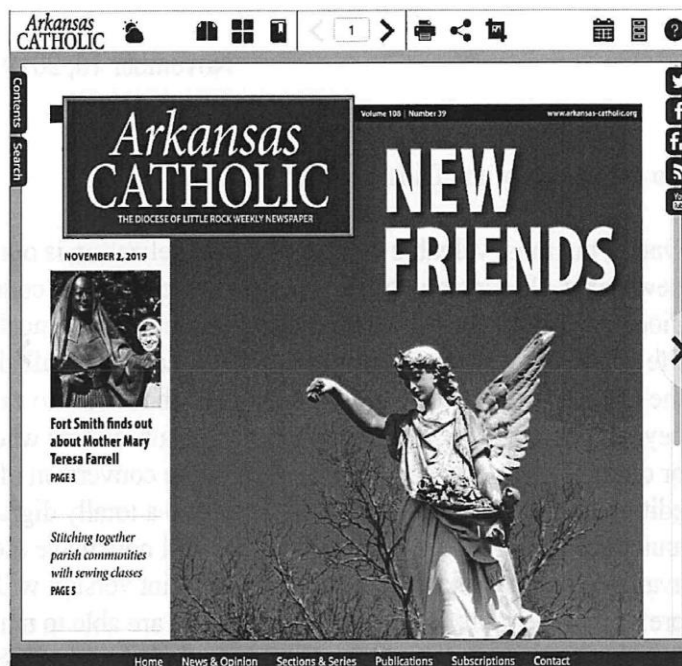
\$25	Provides religious education book for two people.
\$50	Provides a partial scholarship for a student to attend a Campus Ministry retreat.
\$135	Provides a scholarship for one youth to attend a Search weekend.
\$150	Provides utility bill assistance for a family through our Family Assistance Program.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

#### A tip for iPhone & iPad

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

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



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## We love to tell the stories in Arkansas Catholic

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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.