

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 Robin Markham Parish Manager:

Adult Scripture Study: Buildings, Maintenance: Catholic Christian Women: Catholic Youth Ministries (CYM):

Cemetery Committee:

Custodian:

Eucharistic Adoration: Finance Council: Flocknote:

Knights of Columbus:

Knights of Columbus, 4th Degree:

Legion of Mary: Libraries:

Liturgy, Sacraments, Devotions:

Music Ministry:

Pro-Life:

Religious Ed, Formation (PREP):

Sacristans:

Alternate Sacristans: Safe Environment:

Social Justice/Charitable Outreach

Trail Life USA: Tribunal:

Wedding Coordinator:

Welcome New Catholics (RCIA):

Tom Hoberock Craig Bailey Holly Coffman Terra Atkinson Marlene Rowe Holly Coffman Carmen Andrade Joe Koenig Robin Markham Frank Handley Val Stechly Pat Knickerbocker Jennifer Johnson Dc. Mark Scouten Julie Jasper

Sandra Guidry

Holly Coffman

Holly Coffman

Robin Markham Wes Bradford Dc. Mark Scouten **Bonnie Tauer**

K. Jones, M. Stephens

E. Scouten, C. Bailey

Wayne & Judy Keith

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to register in the parish, please till 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.

2021/2022 WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, 8:30 AM 4:00 PM 11:00 PM	December 24 NO MASS Christmas Vigil Mass: +Bill Burge, 3 rd Anniv. Christmas Vigil Mass: All Parishioners
Saturday, 8:00 AM 8:30 AM 4:30 PM 5:00 PM	December 25 – The Nativity of the Lord Rosary & Confessions Christmas Mass: +Richard Dix Rosary & Confessions Holy Family Vigil Mass: +Audrey Ferrari
Sunday, 8:00 AM 8:30 AM	December 26 – The Holy Family Rosary & Confessions MASS: +Bill Ogier
Monday,	December 27 - NO MASS
Tuesday, 5:00 PM 5:30 PM	December 28 Rosary & Confessions MASS: +Shirley Gillies
Wednesday, 5:00 PM 5:30 PM	December 29 Rosary & Confessions MASS: +Ron Rotkowski
Thursday, 8:00 AM 8:30 AM	December 30 Rosary & Confessions MASS: +Lynam Family
Friday, 8:00 AM 8:30 AM	December 31 Rosary & Confessions MASS: SI – Stella Krone, BD (12-30)
8:00 AM 8:30 AM 4:30 PM 5:00 PM	January 1 – Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (Not A Holy Day of Obligation This Year) Rosary & Confessions MASS: +Tom Clark, 2 nd Anniv. Rosary & Confessions Vigil Mass: SI – Wes & Carol Bradford, Anniv.
Sunday, 8:00 AM 8:30 AM	January 2 – Epiphany of the Lord Rosary & Confessions MASS: SI – All Parishioners



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

CONFESSIONS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE one-half hour <u>before</u> 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.



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.

BISHOP TAYLOR ANNOUNCED EFFECTIVE MAY 15-16, 2021, MASK WEARING IS OPTIONAL. His letter of May 9 stated: I believe that due to the universal availability of the vaccine, we can now make mask-wearing optional, effective. 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 vulnerable.

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. Click Resources; then click livestream. For daily Masses, visit the MMG Facebook account.

MUSIC MINISTRY

HANDBELLS & ADULT CHOIR REHEARSALS change almost daily! Contact Julie Jasper at 870-688-9369 or julesjasper93@gmail.com to confirm rehearsal dates and times.

NO PREP THIS WEEK – MERRY CHRISTMAS! NO LEGION OF MARY THIS WEEK – MERRY CHRISTMAS!

2021 CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

St. Andrew's Church - Yellville

Saturday, Dec. 25 11 AM Christmas Mass

Mary Mother of God Church - Harrison

Friday, Dec. 24 4 PM – Vigil Mass

Friday, Dec. 24 11 PM – Vigil "Midnight" Mass Saturday, Dec. 25 8:30 AM – Christmas Day Mass

The Collection at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be for the Diocesan Clergy Welfare Fund. This fund provides retirement and health care benefits to retired and infirm priests around our diocese. Our priests spend every day of their adult lives as humble and devoted servants, doing God's work and serving us until age or infirmity calls them to retirement. Your contributions to the Clergy Welfare Fund make our priests' retirement possible. Please share with them the generosity that they continue to share with us.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS – Military & Emergency Personnel, Victims of Natural Disasters, COVID-19 & Terrorism, Vocations, Carl Bell, Cindy Benner, Donnie Billups, Carol Bomboy, Sue Brain, William Bray, Ray Brysch, Betty Burge, Caven James Clark, Loretta Clements, Brian Coffman, Larry/Rita Coffman, Jim/Karen Conner, John Copeland, Mary Decker Family, Glen Feldman, John Forrest, Matthew Gerth, Casey Gibbs, Bill/Levi/Ruth Haley, Chris Haley, Pete Hartman, Leon/Russell Heard, Lorita Henry, Waylen Hetrick, Dianne Hoberock, Linda Hoyet, Chris Jasper, Lavonne Keehn, Darby Kester, Emory Keys, LaDonna King, Dr. Charles Klepper, Mary Koenig, Pat Kohl, Dennis Kyler, Louene Lipsmeyer, Patti Long, Val Lopez, Michael/Peggy Lowery, Hailey Luckette, Tyler Mason, Bill May, Janice Munzner, Mollie Norman, Deb O'Connor, Nikki Patten, Eliska Pollock, Kathy Robinson, Margaret Mary Schlacter. Scouten, Paul Scouten Dc. Mark Seán/Christine, Ed/Yvonne Servis, Charlene Sheets, Phil Sides, Margaret Smith, Bob Stephens, Kathleen Stimson, Pennie Sutton-Veach Family, Ting Tuazon, Sharon Wall, River Wygle. Our Nursing Home Residents: Dan Allen, David Allen, Mary Allen, Terry Bodson, Steve Crawford, Lylia Laffoon, Alan Lasecki, Bonnie Lundblad, Ann May, Bob/Diane Patterson, Mary Ralston, Giovanna Sandri, Billie Signer, Liz Smalley. Please keep our list current by contacting the office to add/delete names. Thank you.



2021 CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

For Isabel Acosta Antida Archuleta **Bob Davidson** Charlene DeVito L.T. (Jim) DeVito Mary Alice DeVito Richard Dix Richard Dix Martin & Mildred Dryden Newt & Ruth Foster

Carolyn Gokenbach Carolyn Gokenbach Lorraine Gokenbach Tom Jamison Graciela Jijon Marin Jones Harry Knickerbocker

Rose & Irene Koenig Bill & Nick Ogier **Our Grandparents** Alejandro Placencia

Lucia Placencia Rolando Placencia Carol Quinlivan Leon Reding Jim Rowe Norm Rowe Peggy Scott

Robert K. Scott S. Vernon Scott Basilisa L. Sevilla Shields Family Stechly Family Jim Turner Mike Turner Herb Van Deven Jim & Esther Virnig Jim & Esther Virnig From

Carmen & Lucia

Travis, Renae, Meadow & Kyle

Cecille Scott Kathy Thomason Kathy Thomason Kathy Thomason Lorraine Dix Gerry Gokenbach Joe & Mary Koenig Dewayne & Laurie Dixon

Gerry Gokenbach **Lorraine Dix** Gerry Gokenbach Donna Jamison Carmen & Lucia Gerry Gokenbach The Atkinson Family Joe & Mary Koenig Marilyn Ogier

Travis, Renae, Meadow & Kyle

Cecille Scott Cecille Scott Cecille Scott Pam & Ken Clouse Gerry Gokenbach Marlene Rowe Marlene Rowe Cecille Scott Cecille Scott Cecille Scott Cecille Scott

Val & Betty Stechly Val & Betty Stechly Gerry Gokenbach Patricia Virnig-Turner Gerry Gokenbach James Virnig Patricia Virnig



Ruth Haley

2021 CHRISTMAS HONORARIUMS

From For Dan & Mary Allen The Atkinson Family Dan & Mary Allen Pam & Ken Clouse Charlotte Amrhein Lorraine Dix Carmen Andrade Lucia McArthur Craig Bailey Joe & Mary Koenig **Betty Burge** Pam & Ken Clouse Kelly/Audrey Charbonneau Family The Atkinson Family Choir & Musicians Anonymous Parishioner Pam & Ken Clouse Mary & Dan Allen Holly Coffman Anonymous Parishioner Father Jim Fanrak Carmen & Lucia Gerry Gokenbach Lorraine Dix Mary & Ed Griggs Mary & Dan Allen

Ruth Haley The Atkinson Family Handbell Choir **Anonymous Parishioner** Dianne Hoberock Gerry Gokenbach Joe & Polly Jamison Donna Jamison Chris & Cathy Jamison Donna Jamison Kathryn Jones Joe & Mary Koenig Melissa LaRossa & Shelby Donna Jamison Sandra Luckenbill Marlene Rowe Lucia McArthur

Mary & Dan Allen

Carmen Andrade Deb O'Connor Marlene Rowe Eliska Pollock Pam & Ken Clouse Jerry Rowe Marlene Rowe Mark Rowe Marlene Rowe

Steve & Loretta Tarochione Pam & Ken Clouse Unborn Children Gerry Gokenbach

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Dec 26: 1 Sm 1:2022, 24-28 / 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24 / Lk 2:41-52

Dec 27: 1 Jn 1:1-4 / Jn 20:1a, 2-8 Dec 28: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 / Mt 2:13-18 Dec 29: 1 Jn 2:3-11 / Lk 2:22-35 Dec 30: 1 Jn 2:12-17 / Lk 2:36-40 Dec 31: 1 Jn 2:18-21 / Jn 1:1-18

Nm 6:22-27 / Gal 4:4-7 / Lk 2:16-21 Jan 1: Jan 2: Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12



REST IN PEACE - Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of +Terisa Tabor (mother of Justin Dearing) who died on December 20. Please remember +Teri and her family in your prayers.

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 aweinspiring 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, 3 PM & 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







MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU! Parishioners Alvin & Regina Hanson and the Jeff & Wendy Fry Family have gifted to your family the latest Matthew Kelly publication, "Life is Messy". In this book, the author brings you through the dilemma of life's messiness. God does not cause

the messes of life to happen, He allows them to happen in order that we learn to rely on Him and His love for each and every one of us. He encourages us to accept our messes as opportunities to grow in faith and hope in Him. For His promise is eternal love, life, and joy to His creation who will accept and trust in Him. He asks only that you not turn to yourselves or false gods seeking the gifts that He has already promised to you.



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.

→ 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

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.)

2021 Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal (CASA) - To date, our parishioners have given **\$22,536.80 or 107%** 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.

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 or text 501-663-0996 or email rpuello@dolr.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

ABOUT THE SYNOD - Dear Parishioners & Church Family,

During January and February, you will be asked to tell Bishop Taylor and the Bishops of the United States about your Church concerns and experiences. A report of your information will be sent to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), to prepare for the Synod of Bishops in Rome.

Your input and information will be gathered through parish meetings and/or questionnaires. Please prayerfully consider being part of this preparation.

Here are the kind of questions that will be asked of you:

- What is your experience of Church; do you feel a part of the Church?
- How can the Church make you feel more included?
- When and how have you experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life and the life of the Church?
- What do you want Bishop Taylor and our Church to hear?
 Sincerely yours,
 Father Jim Fanrak
 Deacon Mark Scouten

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 sacram ents of the Church, especially the Eucharist." – Arkansas Catholic, Nov. 14, 2015, Father Ken Doyle Contact Father Jim for more information.

MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR – LET US ALL SHARE THE JOY OF SERVING THE LORD!! Please sign up as soon as possible. If you are new to serving (Halleluiah!) please contact the church office or fill in your chosen ministry on the back of the bulletin, drop it in the collection basket, and someone will contact you for a brief training meeting. THANKS!!



The "New Pentecost" Prayer Group will resume on Sunday, January 9, 2022 in the Parish Hall following the 8:30 AM Mass. Everyone is welcome. Come Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of your faithful!

MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR – LET US ALL SHARE THE JOY OF SERVING THE LORD!! Please sign up as soon as possible. If you are new to serving (Halleluiah!) please contact the church office or fill in your chosen ministry on the back of the bulletin, drop it in the collection basket, and someone will contact you for a brief training meeting. THANKS!!

SIGN UP TODAY!! The Offertory Gift Bearers have the privilege of bringing to the altar the bread, wine, and water that will be miraculously transformed into the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We encourage you, or you and your family, to participate in this ministry; consider a birthday or anniversary date. Sign-up sheets are in a Gift Bearer binder in the vestibule.

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.

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! 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.

The diocesan initiative One Church invests each year in a small mission church in our diocese that needs a leg up to become a thriving community. The 2021-2022 partner is St. Andrew Church in Danville. All funds donated to One Church for the next 12 months will help the parish renovate a former office building into a usable Parish Life Center, which they currently don't have. Please pray for this project and give today. To give or for more info visit: dolr.org/one-church. Checks should be made payable to Diocese of Little Rock-One Church with the notation "St. Andrew Church-Danville."

SAVE THE DATE - The 12th Annual Arkansas Catholic Men's Conference is just around the corner!! Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 12, 2022. This year's conference will be LIVE and IN PERSON at Christ the King Parish in Little Rock. The theme will be "Men of Mercy". The talks will focus on how to understand God's Great Mercy and how we can allow HIS Mercy to help us grow in our Faith and our Vocation at home, at work and in our community. We have two fantastic speakers. Our Msgr. Jack Harris from our Diocese and Matthew Leonard. Their bios are listed below. THERE IS NO REGISTRATION FEE THIS YEAR! But we are asking for donations to offset the cost of meals, speakers, production, and promotion!



GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE December 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

To break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.



Joseph F. Koenig, C.P.A.

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

870-741-5647 ifkcpa@windstream.net

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Are You Interested?

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.

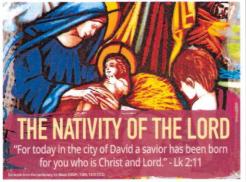
Usher: Greet people, guide them to empty seats, hand out bulletins after Mass, check pews after Mass for debris or loose hymnals/missalettes.

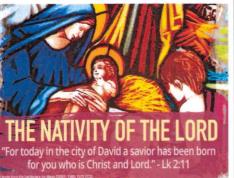
Name

Phone

Clip and drop in collection basket.









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CHIROPRACTIC ORTHOPEDIST CERTIFIED IN ACUPUNCTURE SPORTS PHYSICIAN

Patricia H. Virnig

Attorney At Law

Mary Mother of God Catholic Church

Catholic Christian Women (CCW)

107 Years of Serving Our Parish

See Bulletin For Meeting

Dates & Times

132 N. Willow

Harrison, AR 72601 Hours: 9 AM to 5 PM

870-741-0002 Fax: 870-741-0003

robinmmunzner@yahoo.com

24/7 Service

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Christmas Gifts

Question: Why do we give gifts at Christmas?

Answer: Great events in and of themselves are not tangible. They occur in life but leave no mark behind, nothing that someone could come across and

know that something significant occurred. So we mark the event with monuments, holidays, gold watches or plagues, making a meaningful event tangible and memorable.

Gifts at Christmas do the same thing. They mark the occasion of the birth of Jesus, communicating a bit of the joy of the day by allowing us to be both giver and receiver. Gift-giving sets aside the day as special and different. The special foods, customs, decorations, and gifts all help focus our attention on the importance and meaning of the day and at the same time allow us to share personally in its joy and happiness.

In giving gifts, though, we can share in the meaning of Christmas in a significant way. We imitate God in sharing with others. We give a bit of ourselves to others in the gifts we give, just as God gives us the gift of his Son. No wonder we often say that the best gifts are those that come from the heart. Given in love, these presents are wrapped in the best covering of all.





· Friday Lunch ·

11 AM-1:30 PM

Sunday Lunch ·

11:30 AM-2 PM

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

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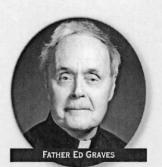


ristmas Merry In Memory of Newt & Ruth Foster









A Class All Their Own

The Christmas collection is the primary source of income for the Clergy Welfare Fund that supports our retired and infirm priests. Please be generous.



MSGR. J. GASTON HEBERT







FATHER THOMAS KELLER



FATHER THOMAS MARKS





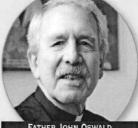




FATHER JOSEPH PALLO



FATHER HENRY MISCHKOWIUSKI



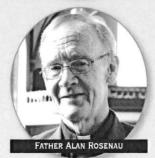
FATHER JOHN OSWALD



FATHER ANDREW SMITH



FATHER STAN SWIDERSKI





For more information, contact Dianne Brady, Director of Stewardship and Development, (501) 664-0340, email dbrady@dolr.org or visit dolr.org



DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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

Christmas 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

During the Coronavirus, the normal rhythm of our lives has been affected in so many ways. As families, workers and communities, we sought new ways to live life.

Our life as a praying and worshiping community was ruptured, too. We all felt the absence of gathering as a family of God, but we adapted to new ways of uniting in prayer. I am most grateful for your generosity to your parish and the Diocese at a time when many people faced and continue to face their own financial struggles.

In the Diocese of little Rock, the Clergy Welfare Fund provides monthly benefits to the retired priests and those who are still able to continue their lives of service in prayer, hearing confessions, and substituting for pastors absent due to vacation or illness.

The Christmas collection is the primary source of income for the Clergy Welfare Fund. Your support will enable us to continue to provide benefits for our retired priests and for future obligations.

Please join me in supporting this special collection taken at all Christmas Masses and continue to pray for an increase in vocations.

I pray daily for you and your loved ones! May you have the peace and joy of Christ this Christmas season and every day of the coming year.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Anthony B. Taylor

Bishop of Little Rock

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

December 26, 2021

WATCH

FORGIVEN—SESSION 1: WHERE ARE YOU?

As we make resolutions for 2021, don't forget about your spiritual well-being! Through our Forgiven series, you can help guide friends and family to new spiritual beginnings!



FORMED Now!

FORMED NOW! WHO IS SAINT STEPHEN?

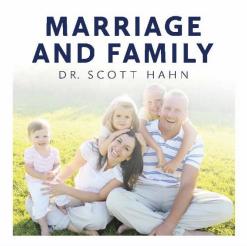
This past week, we celebrated the life of St. Stephen, heroic leader of the early Church. Join Dr. Gray and Dr. Barber as they discuss the first Christian martyr.

LEARN

LISTEN

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY: LOVE UNVEILED BY DR. SCOTT HAHN

The feast of the Holy Family reminds us to help our own families grow in holiness. With this in mind, join Scott Hahn as he shares his advice on how to bring sanctity into the home.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

MARY MOTHER OF GOD CATHOLIC CHURCH HARRISON, ARKANSAS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 26 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	December 27	December 28	December 29	December 30	December 31	January 1, 2022 Solemnity of Mary Not A Holy Day This Yea
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	NO MASS	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++
			NO PREP TONIGHT Classes Resume on January 5, 2022	NO Legion of Mary Mtg Resumes Jan 6, 2022 At 4:30 PM		4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
January 2 Epiphany of the Lord	January 3	January 4	January 5	January 6	January 7	January 8
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection:	NO MASS ++ Knights of Columbus 6:30 Fellowship Meal	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM PREP Dinner	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Legion of Mary	8 AM Patriotic Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary
Maintenance Fund ++ NO BINGO TODAY	7:30 PM Meeting		6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 Only	Mtg Behind Altar ++ 6:30 PM Adult Choir		5 PM Youth Mass
January 9 Baptism of the Lord	January 10	January 11	January 12	January 13	January 14	January 15
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++	NO MASS	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++
New Pentecost Prayer Group Resumes In Parish Hall Following Mass		NO CCW Mtg In January	6 PM PREP Dinner 6-8 PM Confirmation 6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 & High School	9 AM Rosary w/CCW Coffee/Sweets Follow in Parish Hall		4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
++ 2 PM BINGO TODAY			K-7 & High School	4:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar		
				6:30 PM Adult Choir		
January 16 2nd Sunday in Ordinary	January 17	January 18	January 19	January 20	January 21	January 22
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++	NO MASS	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++
New Pentecost Prayer Group in Parish Hall Following Mass			6 PM PREP Dinner 6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 Only	4:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar		4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
NO BINGO TODAY				6:30 PM Adult Choir		
January 23 3rd Sunday in Ordinary	January 24	January 25	January 26	January 27	January 28	January 29
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ New Pentecost Prayer	NO MASS	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM PREP Dinner	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 4:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary
Group in Parish Hall Following Mass ++ 2 PM BINGO TODAY			6-8 PM Confirmation 6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 & High School & First Reconciliation	++ 6:30 PM Adult Choir		5 PM Mass
January 30 4th Sunday in Ordinary	January 31	February 1, 2022	February 2	February 3	February 4 First Friday	February 5 First Saturday
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection:	NO MASS	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM PREP Dinner	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 4:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar	8 AM Patriotic Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary
Black & Indian Missions ++ New Pentecost Prayer Group in Parish Hall Following Mass			6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 Only	6:30 PM Adult Choir		5 PM Mass
ronowing iviass	PLEASE CHE	CK YOUR WEEKLY B	ULLETIN FOR POSSIBLE	CHANGES TO THIS CA	LENDAR.	

JANUARY 2022 MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR

5 PM Saturday Mass

8:30 AM Sunday Mass

Rosary: Roy Arnold Rosary: Bob Lowery Lector: Wes Bradford Lector: John Duncan

E/M: Betty Stechly E/M: Stacy Burge

Val Stechly Judy Keith
Bob Lowery

Servers: Keeley Culpepper Servers: Isaac Jasper

Ushers: Frank Handley Ushers: David Krueger

Jerry Hogue Steve O'Laughlin Chad Coffman Nick Rykert Mike Stephen

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

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

MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR SIGN-UP SHEET

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

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!



Office of the Bishop

P.O. Box 7239 Little Rock, AR 72217

Bishop

Most Reverend Anthony B. Taylor

Superintendent Mrs. Theresa Hall























Faith A

Academics

Consico



ARKANSAS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIP APPEAL

November 13, 2021

Dear Parishioner,

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, 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 79 students attending Arkansas Catholic schools with awards ranging from \$400 to \$1,500 per student.

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 \$526,505. 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. They provide a rigorous education, rooted in the Gospel, and rich in the cherished traditions and liturgical practices of our faith. Even in the midst of a pandemic, our schools are ensuring that students will have the foundation to live a moral and upright life to face the challenges brought by changes in the world today.

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

Sincerely In Christ,

Most Reverend Anthony B. Taylor Bishop of Little Rock

Duly 359







Arkansas Catholic Schools

Scholarship Appeal



desire a Catholic education for their child. Parish subsidies, school fundraising, and foundations A Catholic education is a gift that serves the child, their family, and the community throughout their lifetime and beyond. The cost of tuition is a challenge to hundreds of our families who provide funds for financial assistance, but not enough. 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	Monthly/Mensualmente
Name /Nombre	
Address / Dirección	One-Time Fayment/On Solo pago
City, State, Zip Code /Ciudad, Estado, Código Postal	Total Pledge/Donativo Total \$
Email /Correo Electrónico	Amount Enclosed/Cantidad Adjunta \$
Phone /Teléfono () Parish /Parroquia	
Diocese/Catholic	Balance Due/Saldo adeudado
Usa 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.dolr.org/schools/scholarship-appeal.

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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DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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

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



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 870-424-4573 Monday – Thursday 10:00a – 6:00p Closed Fridays

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

Informedchaiceswamenscenter.org



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

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

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

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

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

What does Music Ministry mean to me?

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

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

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

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

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



What your Donation Can Do:

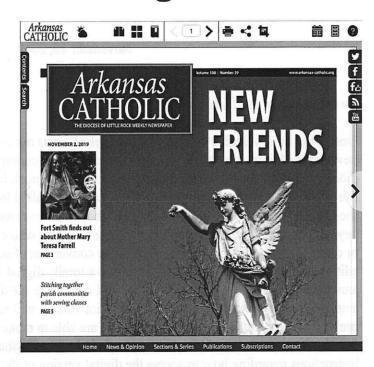
\$25	Provides religious education book for two people.
\$50	Provides a partial scholarship for a student to attend a Campus Ministry retreat.
\$135	Provides a scholarship for one youth to attend a Search weekend.
\$150	Provides utility bill assistance for a family through our Family Assistance Program.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

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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.
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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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MAJOR CHANGES TO SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM!!!



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

WHO must do safe environment training and background checks:

- 1) Employees
- 2) Volunteers with Routine Contact w/ Minors
 - a. This includes only volunteers who have routine contact with minors as an essential part of their volunteer duties.
 - b. Volunteers who do <u>not</u> have routine contact with minors as an essential part of their duties do <u>not</u> have to do safe environment training or background checks.

WHAT training programs:

"CMG Connect" → online training for adults

(http://www.dolr.org/safe-environment)

(or directly at: https://littlerock.CMGconnect.org)

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

We will <u>no longer use VIRTUS's</u> "Protecting God's Children" or "Touching Safety." Instead, we will use products supported by **Catholic Mutual Group (CMG)**.

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