



SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mondays As Scheduled

Tuesday & Wednesday – 5:30 PM

Thursday, Friday & Saturday – 8:30 AM

HOLY DAY MASSES

As Announced

CONFESSIONS

One-Half Hour Before All Masses

Or By Appointment w/Father Jim at 870-741-5234

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Mary Mother of God Catholic Church is to carry on the ministry of Jesus Christ, as members of His living body, the Church, to bring the Kingdom of God into the world through evangelization, worship, Religious education, and service in our families, in our parish, and in our community.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

We welcome new members to our Church through the process and Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA).

Please contact the church office.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents and Godparents are required to participate in a preparation process before the Baptism of children. Registration is required.

Please contact the church office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements for wedding must be made at least six months in advance.

Please contact the church office.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Extraordinary Ministers are available to bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are not able to attend Mass. Call the church office about anyone who would like to receive the Eucharist at home.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please contact Father Jim.

MARY MOTHER OF GOD CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mailing Address: PO Box 2150

Physical Address (No Mail): 1614 Maplewood Rd.

Harrison, Arkansas 72602

Church Office & Rectory – 870-741-5234

Church Fax – 870-741-4234

Emails & Prayer-Line Connection: mmgchurch@yahoo.com
www.harrisoncatholic.org

Pastor:

Rev. James M. Fanrak

Deacon:

Dc. Mark Scouten

Parish Manager:

Robin Markham

Adult Scripture Study:

Tom Hoberock

Buildings, Maintenance:

Craig Bailey

Catholic Christian Women:

Holly Coffman

Catholic Youth Ministries (CYM):

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, 4th Degree:

Val Stechly

Legion of Mary:

Pat Knickerbocker

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

2022 WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Holy Saturday, April 16	
8:30 AM	NO MASS
5:00 PM	NO MASS
8:00 PM	Easter Vigil Mass: +Norm Rowe
Easter Sunday, April 17 – The Lord's Resurrection!	
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Newt & Ruth Foster
Monday, April 18 – NO MASS	
Tuesday, April 19	
5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: SI – Chua Family
Wednesday, April 20	
5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: +Florencia DeGuzman
Thursday, April 21	
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Rachel Warner
Friday, April 22	
8:00 AM	Fatima Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – Michael Lynam
9-10 AM	Holy Hour: Divine Mercy Novena
Saturday, April 23	
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: Ting Tuazon
4:30 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:00 PM	MASS: +Poor Souls in Purgatory
Sunday, April 24 – Divine Mercy Sunday	
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Jim Rowe, 8 th Anniv.
3:00 PM	Divine Mercy Holy Hour w/ Exposition & Benediction



Look for the Easter Bunny after Mass! He has Easter eggs to hand out to boys and girls of all ages!!

Annual Divine Mercy Novena began on Good Friday. You are invited to pray this Novena with us at church as follows:

Good Friday, April 15: 3:30 PM (Following Stations)
 Saturday, April 16: 9 AM
 Easter Sun., April 17: Off
 Monday, April 18: 9 AM
 Tuesday, April 19: 6 PM
 Wednesday, April 20: 6 PM
 Thursday, April 21: 9 AM
 Friday, April 22: 9 AM
 Saturday, April 23: 9 AM
 Sunday, April 24: 3 PM (Holy Hour w/Benediction)



In addition to the regular intentions, we will also pray the "Mantle of Mary" prayers asking our Blessed Mother to intercede for our country. Prayer booklets will be available at church. If you want your own copy to pray at home or for future use, download a copy at DailyPrayerstoSaveAmerica.com.

PREP (Parish Religious Education Program) – This Wednesday...

5:00 PM Stations of the Cross & Confessions
 5:30 PM Mass
 6:00 PM Dinner for Students/Teachers/Family
6:00-8:00 PM Confirmation Class
6:30-7:30 PM K-7 & High School



The Legion of Mary will now meet at 4:30 PM on Thursday in the Altar Server Sacristy (room behind the altar). It is an open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend and pray with us.



HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL is Monday at 6:15 PM.
ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL is Thursday at 6:30 PM. Any questions, contact Julie Jasper at 688-9369 or julesjasper93@gmail.com.



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 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.

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

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. 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.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS – Military & Emergency Personnel, Victims of Natural Disasters, COVID-19, Terrorism and War, Vocations, Carl Bell, Donnie Billups, Carol Bomboy, Sue Brain, Ray Brysch, Betty Burge, Ken Clouse, Brian Coffman, Larry/Rita Coffman, Jim/Karen Conner, Noah Cuevas, Bruce Durand, Glen Feldman, John Forrest, Casey Gibbs, Bill/Levi/Ruth Haley, Chris Haley, Pete Hartman, Leon/Russell Heard, Lorita Henry, Molly Hetrick, Dianne Hoberock, Linda Hoyet, Chris Jasper, Leah Jordan, Lavonne Keehn, Daniel Kester, Emory Keys, Dr. Charles Klepper, Mary Koenig, Bernie Kohl, Brian Long, Bobbie Lowery Family, Bill May, Mike Mooneyham, Janice Munzner, Deb O'Connor, Gerri Parr, Eliska Pollock, Kathy Robinson, Tim Rynders, Margaret Mary Schlacter, Dc. Mark Scouten, Ed Servis, Phil Sides, Margaret Smith, Bob Stephens, Kathleen Stimson, Bonnie Tauer, Ting Tuazon, Ashley/River Wygle. **Our Nursing Home Residents:** David Allen, Mary Allen, Terry Bodson, Steve Crawford, Patsy Hahn, Lylia Laffoon, Alan Lasecki, Bonnie Lundblad, Ann May, Bob/Diane Patterson, Mary Ralston, Giovanna Sandri, Billie Signer, Liz Smalley, Jean Williams. **Please keep our list current by contacting the office to add/delete names.**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR – The CCW Spring Banquet will be held at Devito's on Tuesday, May 10, following the 5:30 PM Mass & Installation of Officers. Sign-up sheets will be available in the vestibule from April 23rd to May 1st for you to reserve your dinner choice. More information will be in next Sunday's bulletin.

2022 EASTER MEMORIALS

<u>For</u>	<u>From</u>
Dan Allen	Pam & Ken Clouse
Antida Archuleta	Travis, Renae, Meadow & Kyle
Bob Davidson	Cecille Scott
Jim DeVito	Kathy Thomason
Alice DeVito	Kathy Thomason
Newt & Ruth Foster	Laurie Dixon
Carolyn Gokenbach	Gerry Gokenbach
Elvira Gokenbach	Gerry Gokenbach
Tom Jamison	Donna Jamison
Marin Jones	Gerry Gokenbach
Art LaFleur	Pam & Ken Clouse
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Lipsmeyer	Joan Lipsmeyer
Tom McSherry	Joan Lipsmeyer
My Grandparents	Travis, Renae, Meadow & Kyle
Alejandro Placencia	Cecille Scott
Lucia Placencia	Cecille Scott
Rolando Placencia	Cecille Scott
Carol Quintivan	Pam & Ken Clouse
Leon Reding	Gerry Gokenbach
Ronnie Rose	Pam & Ken Clouse
Jim Rowe	Marlene Rowe
Norm Rowe	Marlene Rowe
Robert K. Scott	Cecille Scott
S. Vernon Scott	Cecille Scott
Basilisa Lavidon Sevilla	Cecille Scott
Shields Family	Val & Betty Stechly
Stechly Family	Val & Betty Stechly
Teresa Teel	Fry Family
Mike Turner	Patricia Virnig
Bill Utaski	Linda Utaski
Esther Virnig	Patricia Virnig
Jim Virnig	Patricia Virnig

2022 EASTER HONORARIUMS

<u>For</u>	<u>From</u>
Sue Brain	Jane Krone
Rose Ann Dirst	Jane Krone
Lorraine Dix	Gerry Gokenbach
Ed & Mary Griggs	Linda Utaski
Dianne Hoberock	Gerry Gokenbach
Chris & Cathy Jamison	Donna Jamison
Joe & Polly Jamison	Donna Jamison
Annette Kukoy	Pam & Ken Clouse
Melissa & Shelby LaRossa	Donna Jamison
Eleanor Lipsmeyer, MD	Joan Lipsmeyer
Sandra Luckenbill	Marlene Rowe
Deborah O'Connor	Marlene Rowe
Jerry Rowe	Marlene Rowe
Mark Rowe	Marlene Rowe
Kim Tennyson	Linda Utaski
Unborn Children	Gerry Gokenbach

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Apr 17:	Acts 10:34a, 37-43 / Col 3:1-4 / Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12
Apr 18:	Acts 2:14, 22-33 / Mt 28:8-15
Apr 19:	Acts 2:36-41 / Jn 20:11-18
Apr 20:	Acts 3:1-10 / Lk 24:13-35
Apr 21:	Acts 3:11-26 / Lk 24:35-48
Apr 22:	Acts 4:1-12 / Jn 21:1-14
Apr 23:	Acts 4:13-21 / Mk 16:9-15
Apr 24:	Acts 5:12-16 / Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19 / Jn 20:19-31



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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – COME & VISIT YOUR SAVIOR!

"The sacred host exposed to our view speaks of the infinite power of Love manifested on the glorious Cross. The sacred host speaks to us of the incredible abasement of the one who made himself poor so as to make us rich in him, the one who accepted the loss of everything so as to win us for his Father. The sacred host is the living, efficacious and real sacrament of the eternal presence of the Savior of mankind to his Church." Pope Benedict XVI

Call Carmen at 305-815-1795 to schedule a time.

Sunday @ 7 AM, 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, Noon, 3 PM & 5 PM

Monday @ 7 AM, 10 AM, 1 PM & 5 PM

Tuesday @ 7 AM, 8 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM & 2 PM

Wednesday @ 7 AM, 1 PM, 4 PM & 6 PM

Thursday @ 1 PM, 3 PM, 4 PM, 5 PM & 6 PM

Friday @ 1 PM, 3 PM, 4 PM & 5 PM

Saturday @ Noon, 1 PM, 2 PM, 3 PM & 4 PM

PLEASE NOTE: If the Harrison schools are closed due to the weather, then Adoration is closed for your safety.



THE JOURNEY FROM Ash Wednesday to Easter Activities Your Family Can Do Together - Lent 2022

EASTER SUNDAY – Jesus lives for us

WEEK OF APRIL 17: Read the Gospel for today (John 20:1-9)

REFLECTION: On Easter morning, the news slowly began to spread that Jesus' body was no longer in the tomb. His friends didn't know what to think, so they went to see for themselves. When they entered the tomb and saw that Jesus wasn't there, they remembered how he'd told them he would rise from the dead and they believed.

PRAYER: Jesus, even before they saw you after your resurrection, your closest friends believed. We, too, have faith in you because you have been a friend to us. Be with us every day and show us how to live for you as you live for us. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

ACTIVITY: Your Lenten family journey started more than 40 days ago. What have you learned about Jesus during that time? What have you learned about yourself and about your family? And what can you do to help keep the spirit of Easter — the spirit of new life — alive in your hearts? Discuss these questions as a family. Thank you for walking with us on the path to Easter We're grateful that you joined us on this Lenten journey. We hope it was a positive experience for you and your family. Check back with us from time to time for other resources designed to help individuals and families learn more about Catholic social teaching and God's deep love for the poor and marginalized. -- Unbound.org

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.

Happy Easter from Father Jim & Deacon Mark!
Mary Mother of God is the great parish it is because of you! May God bless you and may He continue to provide you with all you need to go on caring and giving of yourself, your time, energy, talent, and resources for Him and for neighbor. "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."

→ 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>



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.

Arkansas Catholic Subscription Drive continues. You might have overheard this conversation in our parish. One person asks, "How did you know that?" The other person replies, "I read it in Arkansas Catholic." What are you missing by not subscribing and reading Arkansas Catholic? The award-winning weekly newspaper of the Diocese of Little Rock offers complete print and digital subscriptions.

- The print edition is delivered to your mailbox every week. Subscriptions are only \$30 a year (\$28 for seniors). Pick up a subscription envelope in the pews, visit arkansas-catholic.org or call 501-664-0125.

- And you can get Arkansas Catholic Digital the same day it's published on your computer and most smart devices. Postal delays are no longer a problem.

1. Log on www.digital.arkansas-catholic.org and sign up for free.
2. Click the red "Sign Up" link.
3. Register for your free account and set up your password.
4. Log in, and you now have access to the digital edition, plus all issues back to 2002.

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

Calling All Future Arkansas State Students: We at St. John Newman University Parish in Jonesboro are here for you. We have Mass at 5 PM every Sunday followed by dinner, as well as Faith Night on Wednesdays beginning with pizza. Some of the things you might be interested: retreats, social events, service events, and more! Check us out on the website at astatecnc.com or on social media at ASTATECNC. Questions? Call 870-972-1888.

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.

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 session.

2022 Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal (CASA) - To date, our parishioners have given **\$10,615.00 or 50%** 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.

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.

"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.**

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - As we begin this new year we thank the Lord for His many blessings, some of which have come in disguise. I am personally very grateful for your friendship and your prayers that have carried us through a challenging year. You are in my daily prayers.



We will be updating our Adoration schedule, which I have not done in a while and I appeal to your kindness and patience.

If you are already registered as an "Adorer", please write back to me at g.carmen.8786@gmail.com letting me know your day and hour, and if you intend to keep that schedule this year (of course emergencies will be respected).

If you would like to register, either for the first time or to return, please write to the same email as above letting me know what day would be best for you. Our weekly bulletin shows the hours that are currently available, although there may be some variants, for which I apologize.

Looking forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions, please call me at 305-815-1795. With my best wishes for a happy, healthy, and peaceful 2022!
– Carmen Andrade



DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK Office of Vocations

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

Dear friends in Christ,

On July 1, 2010 we established the Holy Thursday collection to give everyone the opportunity to help support the education of our seminarians. Since that time, you have donated over \$3,940,300.70. As of 2009, Bishop Taylor has ordained 43 new priests. Your generosity has been overwhelming, and I want to thank you for your prayers and support.

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

The good news of your Holy Investment in Faith continues! In 2022, God willing, 2 additional men will be ordained to the priesthood to serve the people of our diocese. This is in addition to the 139 active diocesan, missionary, and religious priests already serving our diocese. Today the median age of our active diocesan priests has dropped to 48 years.

As you already know, the success of your Investment in Faith is dependent upon God's grace and your donations. Your donation directly supports the education of the future priests of our diocese. We currently have 21 seminarians and anticipate growing even more this fall. I invite you once again this year to open your hearts and help support these young men who will someday be your priests. The education cost for each of the 21 diocesan seminarians is \$36,000 per year, which is equivalent to a total cost of \$756,000.00. We need your help to be able to prepare our seminarians for the priesthood. Every dollar is important. Every gift is an expression of faith.

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

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

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Jeff Hebert
Director of Vocations

IS CONFESSION STILL AN EASTER DUTY?

Cathy Caridi, J.C.L. – April 2, 2009

Q: When I was a kid, everyone was required during Lent to make his “Easter Duty”. Every parishioner received a card from the parish. When we went to confession before Easter, we handed the card to the priest. By Easter he had a huge stack of cards, showing which parishioners had made their Easter Duty and who hadn’t. But nowadays, people hardly ever go to confession like they used to, and nobody talks about Easter Duty. Has this requirement been abolished like so many other things? – Janet

A: Canon law is grounded in theology. The most fundamental theological teaching about the sacrament of penance—that reception of the sacrament is necessary when we are conscious of having committed grave sin (c. 988.1)—will never change, because as Catholics we believe that this sacrament was instituted for this very purpose by Christ Himself. What can change over time, however, are the disciplinary practices (what one might call “housekeeping details”) pertaining to this sacrament, like that described in Janet’s question. Let’s take a look at what the current law says about confessing one’s sins at Easter time, and compare it to church law in the past.

Most American Catholics are at home with the traditional notion that while we should go to confession throughout the year, it is particularly necessary at Christmas and Easter time. In fact, however, there is no legal requirement to receive the sacrament at these particular times. Canon 989 states merely that everyone who has reached the age of discretion is required to confess his grave sins at least once a year. On the surface, it’s a very simple, straightforward canon, but let’s unpack it to be sure we understand exactly what is required of us.

The mention of the “age of discretion” refers to the fact that children who are too young to have made their First Confession are of course exempt from this obligation. The implication, therefore, is that once a child has reached the age of reason and has received the sacrament of penance for the first time, this annual requirement applies.

The canon notes specifically that a Catholic is required to confess his *grave* (i.e., mortal) sins. Thus if he is not conscious of having committed any such sins, there is no requirement to receive the sacrament. The preceding canon does note that it is recommended that the faithful also confess their venial sins (c. 988.2); but a recommendation is not an obligation.

Therefore, technically speaking, a person who does not commit any mortal sins throughout his life is not required to go to confession at ANY time, including the Easter season. Obviously canon 989 does not contain any particularly stringent requirements, and to many Catholics may actually seem quite lax! Was the law more demanding in the past?

Not at all. The current Code of Canon Law was promulgated in 1983 by Pope John Paul II, replacing the previous code of 1917. Our current canon 989 is virtually identical to the 1917 code’s canon 906. That canon, in turn, was based on the discipline decreed by the Church during the Council of Trent (1545-1563), formulated in response to protestant claims that sacramental confession of one’s sins to a priest was not of divine origin and was unnecessary. We can see that with regard to a Catholic’s obligation to confess his sins annually, nothing whatsoever has been changed for nearly 500 years!

It is important to keep in mind here that the code is mandating the absolute minimum that is acceptable for a practicing Catholic. If one adheres to the minimum requirements, he is not violating the law—but that does not necessarily mean that doing only the bare minimum is a good idea.

Nor is it a good idea to fall into the trap of thinking that it is not worthwhile to confess sins that are “just” venial. Pope John Paul, in his 1984 Apostolic Exhortation *Reconciliation and Penance*, noted that venial sin “must never be underestimated, as though it were automatically something that can be ignored or regarded as ‘a sin of little importance’” (17). It is well known that the late pontiff himself confessed his sins every single day—and one might reasonably assume that they were venial, rather than mortal sins!

So what was happening in Janet's parish when she was a kid? The practice she describes, which was not unique, was one means that parish pastors sometimes used in the past to try to ensure that none of their parishioners received Holy Communion at Easter time in a state of mortal sin.

For while the code does not mandate that we Catholics must receive the sacrament of penance at any particular time of the year, it does specify that we receive Holy Communion during the Easter season. Canon 920 notes that once a Catholic has received his First Holy Communion, he is obliged to receive this sacrament at least once a year, during paschal time (i.e., between Easter and Pentecost). This, and not a perceived requirement to go to confession, is the actual origin of the term "Easter Duty".

But it does tie in directly with a requirement to receive the sacrament of penance first, if one has committed mortal sin. Canon 916 simply restates Catholic sacramental theology when it asserts that anyone who is conscious of grave sin may not receive the Eucharist without first having gone to confession.

Consequently, a pastor like Janet's might reasonably have expected that at Easter, Holy Communion would be received by everyone in his parish—including some who ordinarily might not receive the sacrament, for a variety of reasons. Perhaps there were some parishioners who the pastor knew well were not regularly practicing their faith, or who might even be living scandalously sinful lives. If such people were to approach a priest distributing Holy Communion at Easter Sunday Mass, he might logically be concerned that they could still be in a state of grave sin. In order to obviate this problem, the pastor apparently established a system to determine whether in fact each parishioner had received the sacrament of penance before Easter. If he knew that everybody had done so, he might rest easier about giving them all the Eucharist. It was not a fool-proof system, of course, but it was a logical and sincere attempt to ensure that nobody was making a sacrilegious Communion in the parish.

A couple of significant problems with this approach are perhaps the reasons why it is not a current, widespread practice. Firstly, the system presumes that every parishioner will go to confession in his own parish. But there is no obligation to receive the sacrament of penance in a particular church or from a particular priest. Canon 991 states clearly that every Catholic is free to confess his sins to a confessor of his own choice, even to one of another rite. Lest anyone wonder whether this is an innovation in the 1983 code, the corresponding canon in the 1917 code was, once again, virtually identical. This means that anyone may lawfully go to confession in any Catholic parish; and this holds true even if, for example, the Catholic is a member of the Latin rite and he wishes to go to confession at a Byzantine-rite Catholic parish. So if Janet's pastor did not receive a card from one of his parishioners, it was always possible that the person had gone to confession somewhere else. The pastor could not necessarily make any definitive conclusions about a parishioner's failure to submit the card to him.

The second objection is more pastoral than canonical, and concerns a penitent's privacy. While there are plenty of Catholics who are quite content to confess their sins face-to-face, in the sight of the priest (who may recognize them if he already knows them personally), there are also a significant number of faithful who prefer anonymity. There is certainly nothing wrong with a penitent preferring to use a confessional with a grill or other privacy-screen between him and the confessor; nor even with a person wishing to confess specifically to a priest who does not know him at all! Especially, though not exclusively, in cases where a penitent feels a particular embarrassment about having to confess a certain sin, it may be much easier to receive the sacrament in the darkened interior of a traditional confessional-box, from an unknown confessor whom he may very well never meet again. Even if a parishioner believes that the priest(s) of his own parish may not be able to identify him, the need to somehow reach around inside the confessional and hand the priest a card may very well enable him to do just that! Thus this system, while intended to encourage parishioners to go to confession before Easter, could actually discourage some of them from doing so.

To answer Janet's question, therefore, the law concerning mandatory reception of the sacrament of penance has certainly not changed in our lifetimes. But the disciplinary practice at her childhood parish—which in any case was never a universal custom—is not in force throughout the Catholic Church today. The methods which the Church may use to urge or encourage Catholics to frequent the confessional can vary; but the need for us all to receive this sacrament regularly will always remain unchanged.

PLENARY INDULGENCE

Pope Francis Extraordinary Blessing “urbi et orbi” at Rome on March 27, 2020.

Pope Francis granted a plenary indulgence to all the faithful who watched or listened to his blessing “to the city and the world” on March 27, 2020 at the Vatican. This plenary indulgence in effect eliminated all temporal punishment due to sin for those who watched or listened to his extraordinary blessing.

What is temporal punishment due to sin?

The temporal punishment due to sin is a consequence of sin that will have a definite end, that is when the soul is fully purified and totally ready to enter heaven.

The temporal punishment due to sin is usually associated with purgatory, that state after death in which God, in His mercy, will cleanse us of all imperfections so that we can enter into heaven. But this purification may also take place in this life by the practice of prayer, penance, and good works.

Pope Francis granted a plenary indulgence on the special occasion of his blessing “to the city and the world” on March 27, 2020. But there are plenary indulgences associated with many other spiritual works, too. Some are:

1. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for at least one half hour.
2. Devout reading of the Sacred Scriptures for at least one half hour.
3. The pious exercise of the Stations of the Cross.
4. The recitation of the Rosary in a church or public oratory or in the family, a religious community, or a pious association.




Pope St. John Paul II explained in a general audience in 1999 that plenary indulgences depend on “our turning away from sin and our conversion to God”. That is why there are conditions for receiving an indulgence:

1. Sacramental confession.
2. Eucharistic communion.
3. Prayer for the Pope, at least one Our Father and one Hail Mary.
4. All willful attachment to sin, even to venial sin, must be absent.
5. Only one plenary indulgence may be acquired each day.

When a priest is not readily available, the requirements of sacramental confession and communion are suspended until a priest is readily available.

(Catechism of the Catholic Church: 1472-1473, 1478-1479)

MARY MOTHER OF GOD CATHOLIC CHURCH
HARRISON, ARKANSAS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 27 4th Sunday of Lent 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Catholic Relief Services ++ 10 AM Bible Study	March 28 NO MASS ++ 6:15 PM Handbells	March 29 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ 3 PM Bible Study	March 30 5 PM Stations 5:30 PM Mass 5:30 PM Bible Study 6 PM PREP Dinner 6:45 Lenten Youth Mass For All Students (PRE Attendance will be Taken), Catechists & Parents -- Confessions/Holy Hour for Confirmation Class Follow	March 31 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar ++ 6:30 PM Adult Choir	April 1, 2022 First Friday 8 AM Fatima Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Holy Hour w/Stations ABSTINENCE = NO MEAT	April 2 First Saturday 8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Adoration Hour ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
April 3 5th Sunday of Lent 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Maintenance Fund ++ 10 AM Bible Study ++ 2 PM BINGO TODAY	April 4 NO MASS ++ Knights of Columbus 6:30 Fellowship Meal 7:30 PM Meeting ++ 6:15 PM Handbells	April 5 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	April 6 5 PM Stations 5:30 PM Mass ++ 5:30 PM Bible Study ++ 6 PM PREP Dinner 6-8 PM Confirmation 6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 & High School	April 7 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar ++ 6:30 PM Adult Choir	April 8 8 AM Fatima Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Holy Hour w/Stations ABSTINENCE = NO MEAT	April 9 8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
April 10 Palm Sunday 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	April 11 NO MASS ++ 6:15 PM Handbells ++ Day of Recollection 5:30 PM Chrism Mass in Little Rock	April 12 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM CCW Meeting in Parish Hall	April 13 5 PM Stations 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM PREP Dinner 6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 Only ++ All Food Donations May Be Brought to the Church No Later than Today Thank You!	April 14 Holy Thursday NO 8:30 AM MASS ++ 9 AM Rosary w/CCW Coffee/Sweets Follow in Parish Hall ++ 5 PM Confessions 5:30 PM Mass ++ Collection to Support Our Seminarians ++ Adoration Until 9 PM	April 15 Good Friday NO 8:30 AM Mass 3 PM Confessions & Stations of the Cross ++ 5:30 PM Service Holy Land Collection ++ NO Adoration Today ++ FAST & ABSTINENCE DIVINE MERCY NOVENA APRIL 15-23	April 16 Holy Saturday NO 8:30 AM MASS NO 4:30 Confessions NO 5 PM Mass ++ 8 PM Easter Vigil Mass ++ NO Adoration Today
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">   </div>						
 April 17 Easter Sunday 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 11 AM Mass in Yellville ++ NO BINGO TODAY	April 18 NO MASS ++ 6:15 PM Handbells	April 19 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++	April 20 5 PM Stations 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6-8 PM Confirmation 6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 & High School	April 21 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar ++ 6:30 PM Adult Choir	April 22 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Fatima Rosary	April 23 8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
DIVINE MERCY NOVENA CONTINUES THROUGH APRIL 23						
April 24 Divine Mercy Sunday 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Graduation Mass & Breakfast ++ 3 PM Divine Mercy Hour with Exposition & Benediction	April 25 NO MASS ++ 6:15 PM Handbells	April 26 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	April 27 5 PM Stations 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM PREP Dinner 6:30-7:30 PM: K-7 Only 1st Communion Practice	April 28 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Legion of Mary Mtg Behind Altar ++ 6 PM Handbells 6:30 PM Adult Choir	April 29 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Fatima Rosary	April 30 8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<p>As the season of Lent continues, it is helpful to recall the discipline of the Church with regard to fast, abstinence, and other forms of penance. <u>Ash Wednesday</u> and <u>Good Friday</u> are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting allows one full meal and two smaller ones. The law of abstinence prohibits the eating of meat. The Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence in the United States. The obligation of abstinence begins at age 14. The law of fasting obliges all between the ages of 18-59. Pastors and parents are to see to it that minors, though not bound by the law of fast and abstinence, are educated in the authentic sense of penance and encouraged to do acts of penance suitable to their age. All members of the Christian faithful are encouraged to do acts of penance and charity during the Lenten season beyond what is prescribed by law.</p>						
PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR POSSIBLE CHANGES TO THIS CALENDAR.						

2022 APRIL MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR

5 PM Saturday Mass

Rosary: ***Volunteer Needed***
 Lector: Jane Krone

E/M: Wes Bradford
 Elisabeth Scouten

Servers: Jacob Bradford
 Matthew Bradford

Ushers: Everett Burr
 Chuck Draper
 Terry Draper

8:30 AM Sunday Mass

Rosary: Greg Jasper
 Lector: Mary Bausch

E/M: Greg Jasper
 Mike Galligan
 Mary Billups

Servers: Keeley Culpepper
 Jacob Simon

Ushers: Alvin Hanson
 Regina Hanson
 Gerry Gokenbach
 James Virnig

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Apr 1 Debbie Berry	Apr 10 Cambree Hodges	Apr 23 Laurel Eddings
Apr 1 Tristen Smith	Apr 11 Kathy Pinson	Apr 23 Meredith Huddleston
Apr 2 Scarlett Everts	Apr 12 Patricia Castellano	Apr 23 Bobby Lowery Jr.
Apr 3 Shela Aldape	Apr 13 Craig Bailey	Apr 25 Chris Rose
Apr 4 Mary Billups	Apr 14 Blaise Bonds	Apr 26 Carl Bell
Apr 4 Avery Pratt	Apr 15 Maria Padilla Flores	Apr 27 Terry Bodson
Apr 5 Briar Bellinghausen	Apr 16 Robert Carrera	Apr 27 Bonnie Tauer
Apr 6 Darlene Coffman	Apr 16 Zachary Caputo	Apr 28 Steve Gutting
Apr 6 Glen Feldman	Apr 16 David Durand	Apr 28 Rai Lamb
Apr 5 Regina Hanson	Apr 17 Wyatt Mahoney	Apr 28 Julia McFadden
Apr 8 Nick Paradiso	Apr 18 Jane Krone	Apr 29 Traci DiCarlo
Apr 8 Bill Van Leeuwen	Apr 19 Martha Sandoval	Apr 30 Mary Bray
Apr 9 Jimmie Wells	Apr 23 Crystal Applegate	Apr 30 Tim Huddleston
		Apr 30 Venice Rubio

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Apr 8 Kathy & Ubaldo Cuevas	Apr 18 Dick & Linda Hoyet
Apr 10 Richard & Laurie Criger	Apr 28 Travis & Renae Whiteside
Apr 11 Ken & Pam Clouse	Apr 29 James & Patricia Bel
Apr 13 Rickey & Brenda Amerson	Apr 30 David & Cynthia Durand
Apr 16 John & Debbie Berry	

Joseph F. Koenig, C.P.A.

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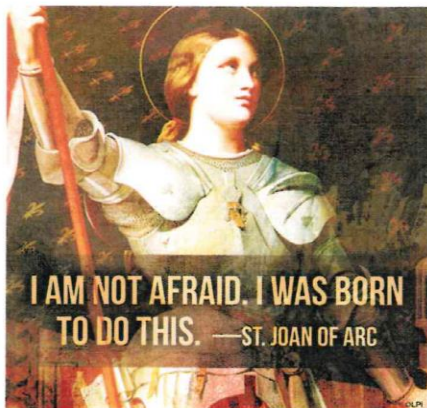
†
Ryan Thompson, Realtor
ryan@selling726.com • 870.416.5123
selling726.com
128 N Willow Street, Harrison, AR 72601

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.

If so, call the church office!



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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

• 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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Leave It in the Tomb

Today, on the most important day of the liturgical year, the Apostle Paul is calling us out.

"I see you hiding in that tomb," he says. "I see you baking with that old, stale yeast, thinking no one will notice."

He says it a little more elegantly, I'll grant you. But the message is this: If you want to be raised with Christ, you'd better be ready to step out of the shadows. Seek what is above — not what is on earth.

I can feel myself responding almost reflexively, "Great idea, Paul — but I'm pretty comfy here." Because sometimes, it's just easier to stay in the tomb. It's easier to crouch in the shadows and look outward at everyone else, thinking of the changes they could make or the sins they could overcome.

Today we are called to embrace newness. New hearts, new lives, new futures, new chances. If there's anything keeping you from that, you need to leave it in the tomb. It's a little scary, sure — maybe Jesus thought so before he stepped into the light of that first Easter morning. But no loaf of bread worth eating was ever baked using stale yeast that wouldn't rise. No new life worth having was ever lived through the broken sins of yesterday. No Easter morning ever dawned without the tomb sitting empty.

Step into the light. He is waiting for you.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

Happy Easter!

In Memory of Newt & Ruth Foster

April 17, 2022

WATCH

OCEAN OF MERCY

At the dawn of the twentieth century, three voices rose up from Poland to proclaim an urgent message, a message powerful enough to alter the course of an age plunging into spiritual darkness. This true story examines and chronicles the phenomenal lives and spiritual legacy of St. Faustina Kowalska, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Pope St. John Paul II, modern day "Apostles of Mercy."



DIVINE MERCY: IN THE SECOND GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD

Learn the dramatic history of God's love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative message of St. Faustina, the miraculous appearance of Mary at Fatima, the witness of Maximilian Kolbe, and the world-changing papacy of Pope St. John Paul II. The vast panorama of God's work of mercy in the world unfolds as a story to be experienced.

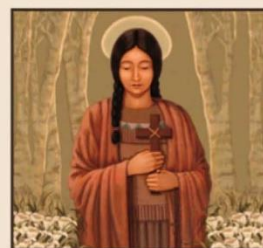
LEARN

LISTEN

ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA: LILY OF THE MOHAWKS

Young Kateri suffered misunderstanding and ridicule due to her counter-cultural choices as a Mohawk to remain an unwed virgin for the love of Jesus Christ. Experience our first Native American Saint's struggles to follow Our Lord within her tribe and through the teachings of some early Jesuit Missionaries.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Lily of the Mohawks



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

JOURNEYING TOGETHER SYNODAL REPORT TO THE DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK
Mary Mother of God Church – Harrison, AR – Fr. James Fanrak, Pastor / Deacon Mark Scouten

Section 2: Narrative – How MMG Parish organized the consultations:

Parish organization leaders as well as volunteers at large were sought out to be facilitators and note-takers during the consultations.

Manageable-sized small groups were made available and gathered; usually offered after Masses, and at the regular meetings of the various parish organizations. Individual consultations were also held as requested.

The facilitators and note-takers recorded and summarized the conversations held at these meetings.

In addition, consultation questionnaires were sent to all registered households in the parish. Returns were recorded and summarized.

All input was synthesized by the parish secretary and committee. This formed the basis of this report.

Section 3: Top Three Revealing Discoveries:

- 1) The people of the parish do feel a part of the Church, and they do their “journeying together” as they are present and participate in the Mass, the Sacraments. They also “journey together” as they become involved in the ministries, organizations, gatherings, and socials that are done as a parish family.
- 2) The people of God, our parishioners, have a very positive and warm experience of how the Church is journeying with them. They feel welcomed, acknowledged, and valued as individuals within the parish. They sense that leadership is trying to care about them, about their welfare and needs. They feel that fellow parishioners are one with them as a family-like group. Parishioners sense that they can reach out to other parishioners in their time of need.
- 3) The people of Mary Mother of God Parish are thirsting for better and more reaching out to those who seem no longer to come to church, as well as to welcoming those who are searching for a church and spiritual family. They would also like to strengthen their bonds with the Lord and with one another through additional spiritual and corporal works of prayer, service, and fellowship.

Section 4: Most Common Observations:

- 1) About why parishioners do not come to church and about why they do not participate in Mass and other parish activities and groups
 - Illness, company, disabilities,
 - Distance from church, no transportation,
 - Irreverence during Mass,
 - Too many requests for money,
 - Pedophilia, scandal,
 - Priests and hierarchy stray from the authentic, traditional teachings of the Church,
 - Dissatisfaction with political leaders,
 - Covid,

Section 4: Most Common Observations:

- 1) Continued
 - Personal scheduling,
 - Very little talk about mortal sin, hell,
 - Validity of sacraments,
 - People's judgmental stance of others at Mass, Church
- 2) About what parishioners like and appreciate what's going at Mary Mother of God Parish:
 - Welcoming feeling, "family" feeling,
 - Spiritual environment, friendliness,
 - Rosary, extraordinary ministers,
 - New Pentecost Prayer Group
 - Scripture Study
 - The structure, the rituals, the prayers
 - Eucharistic Adoration
 - Availability of Confession
 - Knights of Columbus events
 - Legion of Mary, prayer and visiting
 - Corporal and Spiritual works
 - Very accommodating Mass schedule
 - Wonderful organization leaders
 - Pastor, deacon, sacristans, homilies
 - Livestreaming of Masses and events
 - Music Ministry, Youth Choir and Musicians
 - Trail Life Youth
 - PRE, Youth Ministry
 - Flocknotes, bulletins, prayer needs alert
 - List of those needing prayer in bulletin
 - Visits and Communion to homebound
 - Gospel is taught
 - Fellowship – sharing food
 - CCW (Catholic Christian Women)
 - Greeting card ministry
 - Kitchen ministry that builds connections and friendships
 - Simple, understandable teaching
 - Appreciate the bishop and hierarchy for their asking parishioners' thoughts
 - Church secretary
 - Use of parish hall for dinners, get-togethers, family events
 - Magnificat, Formed, EWTN
 - Spiritual Director
 - Caring and ministering when there's a death
 - Beautiful, well-kept gardens, lawns

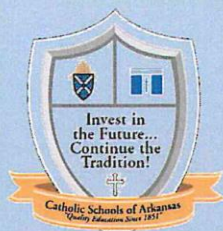
3) About what parishioners want more of and what they want begun at MMG:

- Speak more about the good the Church does
- Communal Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Local theology study programs
- Pilgrimages to Holy Places
- Motivational speakers' resources
- Novenas, Missions, Cursillos
- Benedictions, Eucharistic Processions
- Communal Anointing of the Sick, Healing services
- Encourage Religious Orders (nuns, priests and brothers) to go back to religious habits, etc.
- That the Bishop visit more
- That the hierarchy speak more clearly about how to deal with public figures, political figures who vocally disagree with the authentic teaching of the Church
- Stronger evangelization committee
- More visible and active welcoming committee
- Get-togethers, coffees after Mass
- Socials for all the parish, meals
- Penance Services, Tridentine Rites, Tridentine Priests
- Restore lost Church traditions and rituals, separation of church and state
- Catholic issues study programs
- Empty-nester ministry
- More emphasis on Respect Life
- 6:30 or 7 PM Mass on Days of Obligation
- 4 PM Saturday Mass in Winter
- PRE, Sunday School after Sunday Mass; more emphasis on Youth Ministry
- That the Bishop and hierarchy be fully open, honest, and accountable about abuses, scandals
- More attention to homeless; saving the environment
- Make annulment process smoother
- Latin Mass once in a while
- Church teaching to be more appealing and inclusive, more definite and fixed rather than negotiable
- Young people to become more invited in, active in church
- Catholic parochial school
- Clearer, more definite, authentic Catholic teaching from bishops, pope, magisterium
- Against China government appointing bishops
- More frequent updated parish directory and pictures
- More about Centering prayer
- Laudato Si, Fratelli Tutti groups
- Life in the Spirit seminars
- Clearer teaching on homosexual, trans-sexual issues
- More publicity about the charitable works which the church does

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

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

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



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 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



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

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Email /Correo Electrónico _____

Phone /Teléfono () _____ Parish /Parroquia _____

Please remember the Diocese/Catholic Schools of Arkansas in your will.

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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.

☐ Monthly/Mensualmente

☐ One-Time Payment/Un solo pago

Total Pledge/Donativo Total \$ _____

Amount Enclosed/Cantidad Adjunta \$ _____

Balance Due/Saldo adeudado \$ _____

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).

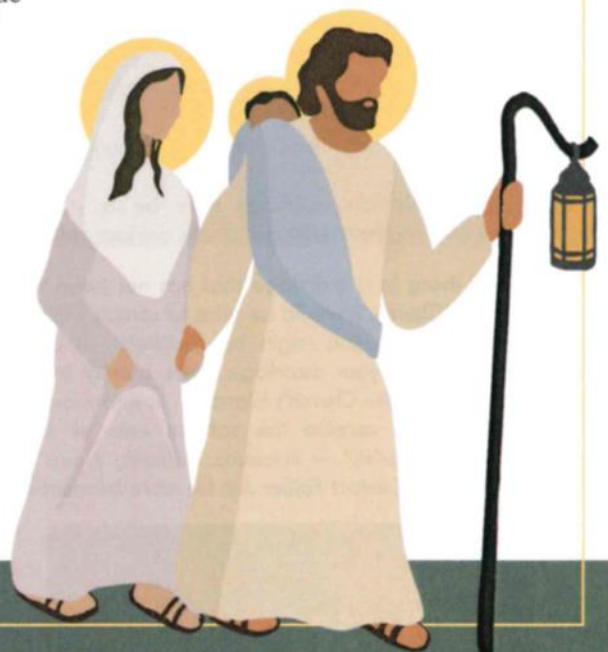
Dear St. Joseph,
help us to
imitate your
faithful trust and
courage.

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

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



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Informed Choices ministry exists to evangelize, encourage and empower men/women in making life affirming choices.

Informed Choices provides:

- Pregnancy Testing
- Pregnancy options education
- Healthy pregnancy education
- Limited ultrasounds
- Post abortion recovery
- Referrals for
 - Pre-natal care
 - Social services
 - Adoption
- Parenting Skills
 - Support mothers & fathers beyond pregnancy
 - "Earn While You Learn" program where clients earn items and resources to provide a healthy environment for their child

WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

- PRAYER PARTNER
- FINANCIAL SUPPORTER
 - One Time Gifts
 - Monthly Gift
- DONATE ITEMS
- VOLUNTEER
 - Men/Women Volunteers
 - Youth Group Service Projects: yard work, sort baby items
- PROMOTE & PARTICIPATE
 - Baby Bottle Campaign
 - Annual Banquet(s)
 - 100-Hole Golf Marathon
 - Community Events

CURRENT NEEDS

- Diapers sizes 1&2
- New baby items
- New (unused) car seats



312 E 3rd St., Mountain Home 870-424-4673
 Monday – Thursday 10:00a – 6:00p
 Closed Fridays

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

Informedchoiceswomenscenter.org



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

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

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

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

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

What does Music Ministry mean to me?

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

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

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

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

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



Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal

What your Donation Can Do!

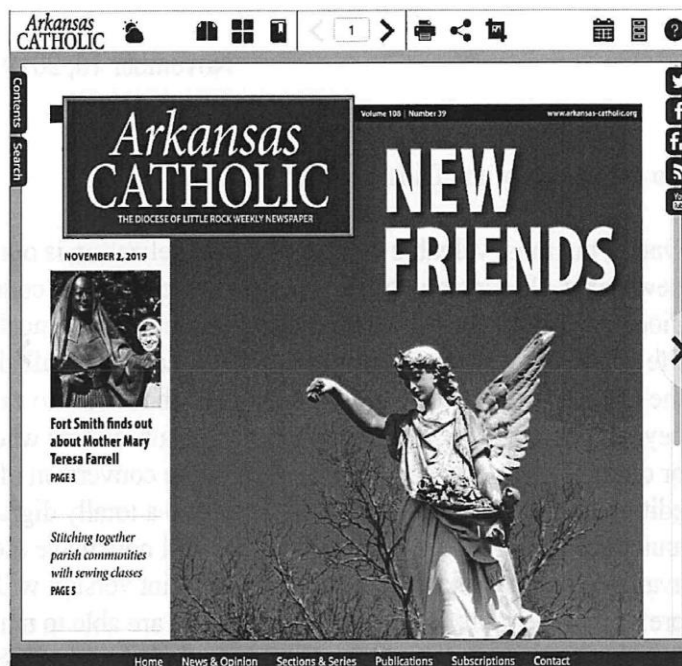
\$25	Provides religious education book for two people.
\$50	Provides a partial scholarship for a student to attend a Campus Ministry retreat.
\$135	Provides a scholarship for one youth to attend a Search weekend.
\$150	Provides utility bill assistance for a family through our Family Assistance Program.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

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- Click the Share  icon on your screen.
- Click "Save to Home Screen."
- Click "Add."

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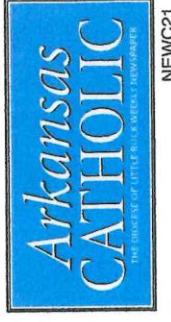
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NEWC21

MAJOR CHANGES TO SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM!!!



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

WHO must do safe environment training and background checks:

1) Employees

2) Volunteers with Routine Contact w/ Minors

- a. This includes only volunteers who have routine contact with minors as an essential part of their volunteer duties.
- b. Volunteers who do not have routine contact with minors as an essential part of their duties do not have to do safe environment training or background checks.

WHAT training programs:

“CMG Connect” → online training for **adults**
(<http://www.dolr.org/safe-environment>)
(or directly at: <https://littlerock.CMGconnect.org>)

“Circle of Grace” → in-classroom training for **children/youth**

We will no longer use VIRTUS’s “Protecting God’s Children” or “Touching Safety.”
Instead, we will use products supported by **Catholic Mutual Group (CMG)**.

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