



Believing Is Seeing

MIGUEL DULICK

We celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring, which is also the first Sunday after Passover. The whole history of the world comes to this point, and today's gospel catches the eternal thrill of that day. A desperate Mary Magdalen cannot find her Lord in the tomb. Thinking that his body has been stolen, she alerts the apostles. Peter and John go running, and a moment of unforgettable suspense follows as first Peter and then John enter the tomb. The details are significant. They saw the burial cloths there and “the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place” (John 20:7). Thieves would not have taken

the time to unwrap the body and fold the face cloth. These details are intended to point to the truth of the resurrection. They saw and believed!

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles follows the story of the centurion Cornelius, the first prominent pagan convert. (His story is fascinating—take time to read it this week.) Peter gives a speech including a kind of catechism that had been standardized in a formula repeated at least six times in Acts. This proclamation, or *kerygma*, incorporates the message and the motivation for a change of life. God anointed Jesus, raised him from the dead, and promised that all who believe in him will be forgiven their sins and rise with him. Happy Easter! ●

Reflect

Why do I believe in the resurrection, and how does my belief impact my life?

Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,
and he saw and believed.

JOHN 20:8



Saint Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
1002 Convent Street Pocahontas, AR 72455
Phone 870-892-3319 FAX 870-892-5199
E-mail Address catholicillsecretary@gmail.com

Saint Joseph the Worker Catholic Church
1415 Harb Street , Corning AR 72422
Mailing Address 800 Eleventh St,
Corning, AR 72422

Pastor: Reverend Stephen Elser: 892-3319
 Director of Religious Education: Monica Loyd 892-3319 catholicilldre@gmail.com
 Parish Secretary: Christine Baltz 724-549-6324
 St Joseph Secretary: Carol Selig 501-940-3506
 School Principal: Rebecca Steimel 892-5639
 School Secretary: Kim Hills 892-5639
 Pastoral Council Chairperson: Allison Swann 870-219-9824
 Pastoral Council Vice Chairperson: Jill Neely 501-658-6818
 Adult Inquiry Class, OCIA: Jamey Sullinger 870-758-0246
 Youth Minister: Dylan Clark 870-892-3319 catholicillym@gmail.com
 Youth Ministry Core Team: Christie Yemma, Larry Weick, Rob & Michelle Olvey, Terri Jansen, Christina Thielemier
 Lectors: Kathi Bergman 870-378-2081
 Ushers: Joseph Difani & Doug Thielemier
 Altar Servers: Tiffany Baltz: 870-810-2523
 Catholic Outreach: Teresa Baltz 870-930-5700 & Rene' Tyler
 Finance Committee Chairperson: Ben DeClerk 870-758-0546
 Knights of Columbus, Grand Knight: Jeremy Stout: 810-2356
 KC Website: pocahontaskofc.com
 Hall rental email- PocahontasChristopherHall@gmail.com
 A/V System: Joseph Jansen 870-202-9896
 Gym rental: St Paul School 870-892-5639

Mass Schedule

<p><u>Saturday April 4, 2026</u> <u>Easter Vigil Mass</u> 8:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Henry Dust, d</p> <p><u>Sunday April 5, 2026</u> 8:00 AM St John Mass Int: Jonathan Cagle, d; Aggie Barnes Summers, d 10:30 AM St Paul Mass Int: Ronnie Rose, d 1:00 PM St Joseph Int: Parishioners</p> <p><u>Monday April 6, 2026</u> No Mass</p> <p><u>Tuesday April 7, 2026</u> No Mass</p> <p><u>Wednesday April 8, 2026</u> 6:15 PM St Paul Mass Int: Bernard Baltz, d</p>	<p><u>Thursday, April 9, 2026</u> 12:00 St John Mass Int: Bart Barre', d; Betty Steimel, d 6:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Jerry Wayne Thielemier, d</p> <p><u>Friday April 10, 2026</u> 9:00 AM St Paul Mass Int: Ronnie Rose, d; Joseph Aloysious Baltz, d</p> <p><u>Saturday April 11, 2026</u> 4:00 PM St Joseph Mass Int: Parishioners 6:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Bob & Lil Gogan, d</p> <p><u>Sunday April 12, 2026</u> 8:00 AM St John Mass Int: JC & Janet Peters, d; Mike Thielemier, d 10:30 AM St Paul Mass Int: Parishioners</p>
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Text App to 55321 to download our parish app
 1. download my Parish App
 2. Select our Parish after opening



Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday- 8am -11:30 am; 12:30 pm- 4:30 pm
 Closed on Holy Days of Obligation
 If an emergency occurs requiring the sacramental ministry of a priest, please contact the parish office Monday – Friday. After hours or on week-ends, please contact Christine Baltz 724-549-6324.

Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered Saturday 11 am-12 noon, Tuesday & Thursday 5-5:45 PM or most any reasonable time by request, (your identity need not be known). Come receive our Risen Lord's forgiveness & healing.

Sacrament of Baptism presupposes sufficient instruction & a desire on the part of the candidate/ parent to practice the faith. *Expectant parents please ask for the Church's blessing for a safe and healthy delivery.* Call the Church Office to schedule instructions & the service.

Sacrament of Marriage is a wonderful commitment of life & love, & involves much serious deliberation, prayer & planning. Engaged couples should contact the pastor at least SIX Months before setting a date.

Sacrament of the Sick is always encouraged for those who are seriously ill, elderly, or facing surgery. The Sacrament of Healing is available upon request. Family & friends are invited to attend & thus show their support, love, friendship, & Christian concern

Bulletin announcement deadline is Wednesday, at noon



The Catholic Diocese of Little Rock is committed to protecting children and young people. If you are aware of abuse or have been abused by Clerics, Church volunteers, or Church workers, please contact the State of Arkansas Hotline for Crimes against Children at 1-800-482-5964 and the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs, Deacon Matthew A. Glover, (501) 664-0340 ext. 361. For pastoral assistance please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Little Rock: Laura Gottspomer at (501) 664-0340, ext. 425. Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207.

Sacristan Schedule

April 11- Joan Gross April 12- Scott & Abby Tyler
 April 18- Nick DeClerk April 19 -Josh & Jill Neely
 April 25- Susan Meier April 26- Matt & Jennifer Hibbard

Financial Report	
April 2, 2026	\$8,122.60
2026 year to date	\$88,563.06
Children's Collection	\$47.00
St Joseph, March 2026	\$1,910.00
DOLR	\$1,175.00
Food Bank, March 2026	\$1,084.56



BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER



Online Giving *with We Share*
 Follow the link on the Church website to sign up.

Church Cleaning Schedule April 11- Roberta Waymon, Bridgette Rose, Teresa Baltz, Abby Tyler. **To volunteer to join a group & help maintain our church call the office or ask someone to join a group.**

Eucharistic Ministers/Altar Servers Schedule

6:00 PM Saturday April 11, 2026

Host Ministers: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Pauletta Walker, Rose Hutsell

Cups: Kelly Throesch, Trish Thielemier

Altar Servers: Luke, Jacob & Blakley Jansen

10:30 AM Sunday April 12, 2026

Host Ministers: Abby Tyler, Jennifer Hibbard

Cups: Debbie Hibbard, Monica Loyd

Cups: Veronica Rose, Jill Neely

Altar Servers: Hayden Moore, Owen Smith, Caroline Thielemier

6:00 PM Saturday April 18, 2026

Host Ministers: DC Drake, Maggie Baltz

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Cups: Pauletta Walker, Joan Gross

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Aubrey Hogan, Valentina Nguyen

10:30 AM Sunday April 19, 2026

Host Ministers: DC Drake, Cyndy Busick

Cups: Michelle Olvey, Brin Presley

Cups: Angie DeClerk, Amma Higginbotham

Altar Servers: Zoey Hibbard, Leo & Etta Clark

6:00 PM Saturday April 25, 2026

Host Ministers: Susan Meier, Paige Radcliff

Cups: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Alex & Tiffany Baltz

Altar Servers: Peyton & Reese Radcliff, Riles Johnson

10:30 AM Sunday April 26, 2026

Host Ministers: Jill Neely, Abby Tyler

Cups: Rene' Tyler, Claire Garoutte

Cups: Leroy & Jennifer Nichols

Altar Servers: Keegan Presley, Aven Thielemier, Avery Seagraves

Nursing Home and Homebound Ministry: April:

Judith Meier, Belinda Ward and Veronica Rose

April Ushers:

Saturday: Benny Baltz, Nick DeClerk

Sunday: Joe Difani, Mike Higginbotham, Joe T Carroll, Josh Neely, Brayden Tille

Please join us in welcoming our newest parish members: Hope Broadway, Laura Throesch, Jordan Hausmann, Leigh Ann Schmidt, Brad Ashcraft, Michael D. Hobgood, and James Damon. We are blessed to have you as part of our parish family.

Knights of Columbus meeting: April 8th, 8pm.

Devine Mercy April 12th @ 3:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to join us for this Holy hour.

Save the dates:

Annual Knights of Columbus Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:30 Mass Easter morning. The hunt will be on the lawn in front of Parish Life Center.

Rainforest Falls VBS: July 26-29

The Parish Food Bank is still collecting donations for our CYM Food Drive. Please drop off any non-perishable food items at the church office during regular business hours. Thank you for your generosity.

Please pray for Bishop Anthony Taylor, David Bassford, Debbie Junkersfeld, Jan Richardson, Ella Scobey, Tommy O'Donnell, Stephanie Garner, Dennis Blount, Les McPherson, Bridgette Kasinger, Gary Baltz, Jacquolyn Weick, Sheila Saala, Jessica Pfeffer, Mary Broadway, Jake Kasinger, Gail Pinion, Josh Nichols, Jo Ann Manis, Becky Catron, Tanya Flanagan Smith, Luke Steimel, Donna Baltz, Vivian Blackshear, Dave Weick, Mike Cook, Christina Smith, Dorothy Hoelscher, Tim Junkersfeld, Leonard Thielemier, Nekayah Thomas, Virginia Sacher, Brooke Junkersfeld, Joe T Carroll, Lane Clayton, Jo Vatsula, Richard Jenkins, Jim & Shirley Lamb, Steve Bodden, Linda Davenport, Dorothy Ward, Bonnie Schmidt, Elizabeth Smith, Margaret Weyer, Diane Kimble Ramsey, Fr. James Schaefer, and Keith Broadway.

Good News!

April 5, 2026
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (A)

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 / Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 / John 20:1-9 or Matthew 28:1-10

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Dear Padre

April 5, 2026

I'm marrying my girlfriend! Although she grew up Catholic, she doesn't practice the faith. Is it still OK to marry her?

Will you enter marriage with your fiancée because of a mutual love for each other? Do you both understand that this love will be strengthened by the sacramental grace of your matrimonial union, a grace you will receive because of baptism, not practice? Will you both try to create a loving family and, together as a family, try to be open each day to the grace of God already at work in your lives? Do you both realize that this grace calls you to create, in the name of Jesus, a witness to the truth of the gospel, which is even more powerful than the love you share?

If you hesitate to answer any of these questions with a wholehearted "yes," then consider exploring these questions together with your pastor or another person helping to prepare you for marriage. Perfect faith is not required for a good, sacramental marriage. Openness to faith is believing that the Lord who has brought you together is not yet finished with either of you. You both have more to learn, and, with God's grace, you will respond to his love. Jesus will work through both of you in ways that you may not even be able to imagine. In that spirit, marry her, build a life together, and know that God's plan for you will always be there. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

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ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

4650 Engelberg Road, Pocahontas, AR 72455



Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Elser (501) 420-4531 frstephenelser@gmail.com
 Secretary: Jane Smith (870) 378-5052 stjohns4650@gmail.com
 Hall Rental: Jessica Stout (870) 378-0300 Rose Throesch (870) 378-6282
 Cemetery: Johnathan Wren (870) 202-3727 Ben Throesch (870) 378-4567

Parish Office Hours: Thursday 8:00AM-12:00 Noon, or by appointment

Mass Schedule

Saturday	11:00AM Confessions, St. Paul (Pocahontas) 3:30PM Confessions, St. Joseph (Corning) 4:00PM Mass, St. Joseph (Corning) 6:00PM Mass, St. Paul (Pocahontas)
Sunday	7:30AM Confessions, St. John (Engelberg) 8:00AM Mass, St. John (Engelberg) 10:30AM Mass, St. Paul (Pocahontas)
Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	5:00PM Confessions, St. Paul (Pocahontas) 6:00PM Mass, St. Paul (Pocahontas)
Wednesday	9:00AM Mass, St. Paul (Pocahontas) (School Year) 12:00 Noon Mass, St. Paul (Pocahontas) (Summer)
Thursday	8:00AM-12:00 Noon Adoration, St. John (Engelberg) 12:00 Noon Mass, St. John (Engelberg) 5:00PM Confessions, St. Paul (Pocahontas) 6:00PM Mass, St. Paul (Pocahontas)
Friday	9:00AM Mass, St. Paul (Pocahontas) (School Year) 12:00 Noon Mass, St. Paul (Pocahontas) (Summer)

CATECHEUMS AND CANDIDATES JOINING OUR CHURCH HOLY SATURDAY

HOPE BROADWAY- daughter of Scott Broadway, is excited to be joining the Church and building a closer relationship with God. Her dad has helped her throughout her journey and understanding of the Catholic faith. She is so ready to keep her relationship with God growing and pursuing a life faithful to Him. She enjoys playing softball, spending time with family and loves her cat, Theo.

LAURA THROESCH-married to Joseph Throesch and has two “rambunctious” little boys. They live in Engelberg and normally attend St. John’s but have enjoyed attending St. Paul’s the last few months. Laura takes care of the elderly, her boys, and keeps Joseph busy. She is so excited about becoming Catholic and being active in the Church.

JORDAN HAUSMANN - married to Brody Hausman and they have a son, Rhode. She is a registered nurse and is looking forward to becoming a member of the Catholic Church.

LEIGH ANN SCHMIDT- married to Lance Schmidt and has two daughters, Anna and Olivia who is married to Gabe. They have a son, Nash Henderson. Leigh Ann is a registered nurse. She loves spending time with family, friends, traveling, the Razorbacks, being outdoors and reading. She has a Methodist background and is excited for her Catholic journey.

BRAD ASHCRAFT – married to Leanna Hausman Ashcraft. He grew up in Pocahontas but now lives in Portia. He has two daughters, a stepson, a stepdaughter and two grandchildren. He works for the USDA Farm Service Agency.

MICHAEL D. HOBGOOD- 71 years old, retired U.S. Air Force and lives in Williford. He was raised Methodist and left the church at 18 years old. Became a drunk but got sober in Alcoholics Anonymous at age 31, which is when he returned to God. Has been searching since to fill a void he could always sense. After 40 years, the Holy Spirit led him to the Catholic Church.

SAMANTHA JOHNSON- lives in Smithville. She has a 2-year-old son, Jeremiah. She enjoys fiber arts, gardening, baking, and tending to her birds and rabbits. She thinks she is silly and loves to laugh. Joining the Church is extremely exciting and she looks forward to making friends here!

JAMES DAMON-married to Cassie and they have two beautiful children, Andrew, age 16 and Rilee, age 14. James, raised in Randolph County, graduated from Sloan Hendrix in 1996 and from ASU in 2001 with a BA in History. James is a U.S. Army Veteran and deployed in support of the Global War on Terror in 2002. He has been employed with Union Pacific Railroad as a Freight Conductor for 2 years. He enjoys spending time in the outdoors with this family, has a passion for American History and volunteers as an historical interpreter in his spare time.

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FUNDA DEMIRKAYA / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Holy Saturday...is the day in which heaven visits earth most deeply. It is the time in which every corner of human history is touched by the light of Easter.... Nothing can be excluded from [Christ's] redemption. Not even our nights, not even our oldest faults, not even our broken bonds. There is no past so ruined, no history so compromised

that it cannot be touched by mercy.

**GENERAL
AUDIENCE, ROME,
SEPTEMBER 24,
2025**



MARCO IACOBUCCI EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about **Dear Padre**.

Monday

April 6
Octave of Easter
Acts 2:14, 22–33
Mt 28:8–15

Tuesday

April 7
Octave of Easter
Acts 2:36–41
Jn 20:11–18

Wednesday

April 8
Octave of Easter
Acts 3:1–10
Lk 24:13–35

Thursday

April 9
Octave of Easter
Acts 3:11–26
Lk 24:35–48

Friday

April 10
Octave of Easter
Acts 4:1–12
Jn 21:1–14

Saturday

April 11
Octave of Easter
Acts 4:13–21
Mk 16:9–15

Sunday

April 12
Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)
Acts 2:42–47
1 Pt 1:3–9
Jn 20:19–31