



The two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

LUKE 24:35



Three Basic Rules

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

The Emmaus story is about two disciples walking seven miles from Jerusalem to a village called Emmaus and their encounter with Jesus, whom they did not recognize. The story is rich in both symbolism and meaning. In a nutshell, it teaches us three basic rules for the formation of Christian community: *Welcome the stranger. Break open the word. Celebrate the Eucharist.* When we are faithful to these practices, we are faithful to the promise of the kingdom in our midst. If we choose to ignore these basic rules, we should not be surprised that we seem to be struggling.

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well enough and ignore the third. We cannot pick and choose. It is the Lord who sets the parameters; our mission is only to respond positively in faith to what he directs us to do.

How are we doing? An honest appraisal probably suggests that improvement is needed. Each of our local communities, and indeed even the wider Church, sometimes struggles to form an Emmaus community of faith. We know we can do better. The good news is that we are not uninformed, and we know where we need to place the most effort. The Holy Spirit of God will show us how we need to apply this renewed effort. ●

Reflect

Where does my family and parish need improvement to form a genuinely faithful Emmaus community?

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

Third Sunday of Easter
Saturday April 18, 2026
 4:00 PM St Joseph Mass
 Int: Parishioners
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Amy Prichard, d

Sunday April 19, 2026
 8:00 AM St John Mass
 Int: Rebecca Franks, d ; Fr. Mariadass Vallapaneni, d
 10:30 AM St Paul Mass
 Int: Parishioners

Monday April 20, 2026
 No Mass

Tuesday April 21, 2026
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Billie DeClerk, d

Wednesday April 22, 2026
 9:00 AM St Paul Mass
 Int: Emma Jean Nuce Gschwend, d

Thursday April 23, 2026
 12:00 St John Mass
 Int: Madeleine Throesch, d; Dickie & Doris Flanigan (healing)
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Vitus Thielemier, d Jerry Wayne Thielemier, d

Friday April 24, 2026
 9:00 AM St Paul Mass
 Int: Ronnie Rose, d

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Saturday April 25, 2026
 4:00 PM St Joseph Mass
 Int: Parishioners
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Herbert Throesch, d

Sunday April 26, 2026
 8:00 AM St John Mass
 Int: Delta Hausman, d; Bob Wren, d
 10:30 AM St Paul Mass
 Int: Parishioners



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 25- Susan Meier April 26- Matt & Jennifer Hibbard
 May 2- Joan Gross May 3- Scott & Kim Hills
 May 9- Alex Baltz May 10- Jeff Evers

Financial Report	
April 16, 2026	\$11,025.08
2026 year to date	\$120,794.55
Children's Collection	\$24.00
St Joseph, February 2026	\$2,784.00
DOLR	\$3,863.81
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 25- Sarah Counts, Rene' Tyler, Karen Starr, Rita Rowe. **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 25, 2026

Host Ministers: Susan Meier, Paige Radcliff

Cups: Mitch & Teresa 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

6:00 PM Saturday May 2, 2026

Host Ministers: Mitch & Teresa Baltz

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Cups: Pauletta Walker, Rose Hutsell

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Avery Durham, Valentina Nguyen

10:30 AM Sunday May 3, 2026

Host Ministers: Debbie Hibbard, Monica Loyd

Cups: Cyndy Busick, Jennifer Hibbard

Cups: Shelly James, Terri Jansen

Altar Servers: Mary Morgan & Kipton Jansen, Caroline Thielemier

6:00 PM Saturday May 9, 2026

Host Ministers: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Alex & Tiffany Baltz

Cups: Trish Thielemier, Kelly Throesch

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Dru & Evelyn Steimel

10:30 AM Sunday May 10, 2026

Host Ministers: Veronica Rose, Michelle Olvey

Cups: Brin Presley, Claire Garoutte

Cups: Jennifer Nichols, Jill Neely

Altar Servers: Owen Smith, Leo & Etta Clark

Anyone who still has the CRS Rice Bowls, please return them turned to the church office by end of next week. Thank you.

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

Sunday April 26 at the 10:30 AM Mass we will be celebrating First Holy Communion for our 15 second graders.

The Parish Food Bank is still collecting donations for our CYM Food Pantry. Please drop off any nonperishable food items at the church office during regular business hours. Thank you for your generosity and support of this important ministry.

Any adults interested in volunteering for VBS are invited to attend a meeting on April 20th at 6:00 PM in the Parish Life Center. For more information, please contact Jill Neely at 501-658-6818. VBS July 26-29

Catholic Kids Club of St John's . We are a group of parishioners who are inviting children of all ages to be a part of a new club within our community. Getting together on the third Sunday of every month. We will be doing church-based learning games & activities. Anyone wanting to volunteer to help please contact Chrsitina Cox 870-810-1853, Carson Hausman 870-878-1185, or Laura Throesch 870-810-3746. First meeting April 19th @ 4:30 PM.

Next weekend April 25th-26th Special Collection:
Catholic Home Mission Appeal.

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, Blake Edwards, Dorothy Ward, Bonnie Schmidt, Elizabeth Smith, Margaret Weyer, Diane Kimble Ramsey, Fr. James Schaefer, Ronnie Risner, Larry Weick and Keith Broadway.

Good News!

April 19, 2026
Third Sunday of Easter (A)

Acts 2:14, 22–33 / 1 Peter 1:17–21 / Luke 24:13–35

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

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Dear Padre

April 19, 2026

Why are there different stories about Jesus' resurrection?

As a whole, the New Testament is a testimonial to the resurrection. About twenty years after Jesus' death, St. Paul offers the earliest written reference to the resurrection. (See 1 Thessalonians 1:10.) All four gospels tell the story of Jesus, who was crucified, rose from the dead, and appeared to his disciples. However, the evangelists incorporated elements that were handed on orally, and they presented them in their own style to address the particular needs and cultural backgrounds of their readers. Each author attempted to express the inexpressible resurrection within the limits of language, and they selectively highlighted or omitted material for theological purposes. If minor details vary among the writers—such as the number of women or angels at Christ's tomb—these variations are consistent with the nature of eyewitness accounts and recorded events as they are remembered. Divergent accounts are not false accounts. Despite discrepancies, the objective of the authors remained uncompromised: the identity of the historical Jesus of Nazareth is now the risen Lord of All. (See Acts 10:34–43.) Moreover, the authors wanted to convey this fundamental truth: Jesus Christ's defeat of death by his resurrection is central to our Christian hope and is the assurance of our own resurrection! Guided by the Holy Spirit, the gospels' resurrection accounts have inspired believers for 2,000 years—for "if Christ has not been raised, then...empty, too, your faith" (1 Corinthians 15:14). ●

Fr. Byron J. Miller, 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)

Mass Intentions

April 18, 2026 – April 26, 2026

<p><u>St. John</u> April 19: Father Mariadass Vallapaneni (d); James & Rebecca Franks (d) Thur Apr 23: Madeleine Throesch (d); Dickie & Doris Flanigan (healing) April 26: Bob Wren (d); Delta Hausman (d)</p> <p><u>St. Paul</u> Sat Apr 18: Amy Prichard (d) Sun Apr 19: Parishioners Tues Apr 21: Billie DeClerk (d) Wed Apr 22: Emma Jean Nuce Gschwend (d) Thur Apr 23: Vitus Thielemier (d); Jerry Wayne Thielemier (d) Fri Apr 24: Ronnie Rose (d) Sat Apr 25: Herbert Throesch (d) Sun Apr 26: Parishioners</p>
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Ministry Schedule

	April 19	April 26	May 3	May 10
Eucharistic Ministers	Jim Bergman Lori Bergman Pam Durbin Mike Taylor	Janniet Galvan Deb Martin Patty House Brenda Liebhaber	Janniet Galvan Deb Martin Patty House Brenda Liebhaber	Jessica Stout Kelly Alphin Pat Wren Linda Elmore
Servers	Wade Zitzelberger Holden Zitzelberger Madison Throesch	Lucy Throesch Caroline Stout Jaxon Steimel	Haley Stout Madeleine Throesch Isaac Throesch	Henry Taylor Perry Throesch Jaxon Steimel
Lectors	April: Sonny Throesch & Elaine Wallis May: Lori Steimel & Maria Taylor			
Ushers	April: Chuck Barnes & Danny Steimel May: Andrew Steimel & Steve Liebhaber			
Money Counters	April: Mike & Connie Kasinger, Crystal Blalock May: Jessica Stout, Joe & Lori Steimel			

Weekly Financial Report

April 12, 2026 Loose Cash \$265.00 Checks & Envelopes: \$2050.00
 Seminarian Collection: \$220.00 BRAD: \$382.00 Votive candles: \$47.00

UPCOMING ORDINATION GIFT: Deacon Christopher Elser will be ordained to the Priesthood on May 30, 2026. We would like for our parish to give him an ordination gift. If anyone would like to donate for this gift, please see Father or Jane. We have a card for everyone to sign. Please turn in your donation by the end of April.

CONGRATULATIONS: A heartfelt congratulations to our newest Catholics, especially those who are connected to our parish: Laura Throesch, Jordan Hausmann, Leigh Ann Schmidt, and Brad Ashcraft.

FIRST COMMUNION: We will be celebrating First Communion Sunday, April 26th at St. John’s. There will be donuts served after Mass in front of Church to honor Luke Blalock and Jett Story who will be receiving their first communion.

POKER RUN: The Ladies of Grace and Men’s Group will be hosting our annual Poker-run on Sunday May 3rd. You are welcome to use your side-by-sides, four wheelers, trucks or any other transportation as we travel the gravel roads in the Engelberg area. More details to follow.

SHRIMP BOIL: The KC’s will be hosting their annual Shrimp Boil at St. John’s Hall on Saturday, May 9th. It is preferred that you pre-order by contacting Jay Throesch or Jeremy Stout.

UNBORN MONUMENT BLESSING: We will be blessing our new Unborn Monument on Mother’s Day, May 10th following 8:00AM Mass.

THANK YOU: The family of Mary Lee Roods would like to give a special thank you to Father Stephen Elser, members of the choir, the altar servers and the good neighbor committee for making our celebration of Mary Lee such a wonderful event.

The Mary Lee Roods family

EUCHARIST ADORATION: There is no greater profession of faith possible for a human being to make here on earth than during prayer before the Holy Eucharist; so we ask, why should prayer before Christ in the Blessed Sacrament be so powerful in obtaining miracles of conversion – is because it is prayer rising from faith in the cardinal mystery of Christianity. (Source: Eucharistic Adoration for Priests Blog) Please call 870-810-0612 for questions or more information.

PRAY FOR: All the sick that request our prayers, especially, Bishop Anthony Taylor, Father James Schaefer, Treva Throesch, Diane Kimble Ramsey, Caren Kiefer, Jerry Lindsey, Eric Thielemier, Hattie Martin, Dennis Weisenbach, Father Matthew Flatly (diocese of Jefferson City), Doris Flanigan, Bonny Schmidt, Marie Peters, Chelsea Martin, Mark Throesch, Johnathan Wren, Pam Murphy, Bridgette Kasinger, Danny McCurdy, Paula Johnson, David Cissel, Owen Rowe, Dennis Burrow, Jake Kasinger, Dickie Flanigan, Sharon Thielemier (Patrick), Betty Baltz, Karen O’Gara, Earnie Durbin, and all those listed in our petition book. May God grant them healing.

Lillies In Honor or Memory of

Shirley Sorg

Tyler White

Amy Prichard

Dr Albert Baltz

Living and Deceased of Torok and Scheckel Families

Dr Ralph & Wilma Ungerank, Jim & Leslie Hart

Frank, Clarice, Larry, Laura, Ronnie, Frankie & David Jansen

In Memory of the Holt, Junkersfeld, Sifford,

Cook & Donner Families

Earldean Baltz

Herbert Throesch

Diane Strait

Doug Guterman

John, Fran & Gene Black

Bob and Ann Meier

George and Helen Dust

Bernard & Monica Baltz

CJ & Ester Wurtz

Leo & Charlene Bergman

Thomas & Frances Baltz

Ferd and Anna Sorg

Wade Harper family

Dixie & Leo Hoxworth

Henry & Frances Sorg

Bill & Melissa Zosso and family

Scott B Dawson & Lambert Jansen

Stuart Wortham & Kevin Ungerant

Gaylon Weaver, Barbara Schmidt Weaver, William Brown & Kim Ray

Friends living & Deceased; Baltz sisters Bernadette, Joan, Pauletta, Anna Roosa
Nichols, Geraldine Skelton & Debra Turner



Dear Padre,

Why are there different stories about Jesus' resurrection?

As a whole, the New Testament is a testimonial to the resurrection. About twenty years after Jesus' death, St. Paul offers the earliest written reference to the resurrection. (See 1 Thessalonians 1:10.) All four gospels tell the story of Jesus, who was crucified, rose from the dead, and appeared to his disciples. However, the evangelists incorporated elements that were handed on orally, and they presented them in their own style to address the particular needs and cultural backgrounds of their readers. Each author attempted to express the inexpressible resurrection within the limits of language, and they selectively highlighted or omitted material for theological purposes. If minor details vary among the writers—such as the number of women or angels at Christ's tomb—these variations are consistent with the nature of eyewitness accounts and recorded events as they are remembered. Divergent accounts are not false accounts. Despite discrepancies, the objective of the authors remained uncompromised: the identity of the historical Jesus of Nazareth is now the risen Lord of All. (See Acts 10:34–43.) Moreover, the authors wanted to convey this fundamental truth: Jesus Christ's defeat of death by his resurrection is central to our Christian hope and is the assurance of our own resurrection! Guided by the Holy Spirit, the gospels' resurrection accounts have inspired believers for 2,000 years—for “if Christ has not been raised, then...empty, too, your faith” (1 Corinthians 15:14). ●



VLADIS CHURN / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron J. Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
April 20	April 21	April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26
<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>St. Mark, Evangelist</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>
Acts 6:8–15 Jn 6:22–29	Acts 7:51–8:1a Jn 6:30–35	Acts 8:1b–8 Jn 6:35–40	Acts 8:26–40 Jn 6:44–51	Acts 9:1–20 Jn 6:52–59	1 Pt 5:5b–14 Mk 16:15–20	Acts 2:14a, 36–41 1 Pt 2:20b–25 Jn 10:1–10



ALESSIA PIERDOMENICO / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

The Church is brokenhearted at the cry of pain rising from places devastated by war... We must never get used to war!... For this reason, in the name of human dignity and international law, I reiterate to those in positions of responsibility the frequent warning of...Pope Pius XII: “Nothing is lost with peace. Everything may be lost with war.”

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, JUNE 18, 2025