



At once [Jesus] spoke to [his disciples],
“Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.”

MATTHEW 14:27

One for All

MIGUEL DULICK

In the first reading, Elijah is ready for anything—a whirlwind, an earthquake, a fire—because “the Lord will pass by” (1 Kings 19:11). But God comes tiptoeing, with a tiny whisper. Elijah, a giant of a prophet, covers his face like a child and wraps himself in the word of the Lord. Ordinarily, at this point, a homily would move on to the gospel. But in the second reading, from Romans, we are brought up short. Paul, a giant himself, would love a reassuring whisper from God. He is in utter agony, for the doubtful salvation of “my own brothers,” the Jews. Such is his distress that he wishes he could offer himself in exchange, even to the extent of being “accursed and separated from Christ” (literally, “anathema”) for “my kin.” (See Romans 9:3.) His anguish is heartbreaking, especially since it seems to be a prayer he has repeated over and over. Paul was no doubt thinking of Moses, who dramatically offered his own life to save the Israelites from God’s judgment after the golden calf: “[Lord,] if you would only forgive their sin! But if you will not, then blot me out of the book that you have written” (Exodus 32:32). Paul’s faith told him that Christ had opened the door of salvation to everyone, and even rejection by the chosen people could not close it. In fact, it confirmed its universal promise. A paradox perhaps, much like when Jesus walked on water, as we hear about in today’s gospel. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

Is there a situation that is causing you anguish? Do you believe God hears you?

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

Pastor: Reverend Samy: 870-892-3319

email: pastorpaul267@gmail.com

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: 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: Kyle Sutton 758-0737

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



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 weekends, 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.

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

Mass Schedule

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Saturday August 8, 2026

4:00 pm St Joseph Mass

Int: Parishioners

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Joseph & Joanna Thibeault, d

Sunday August 9, 2026

8:00 am St John Mass

Int: Tony Hausman, d; Special

Intention; L/D mem of Jake &

Dorothy Liebhaber family

10:30 am St Paul Mass

Int: Parishioners

Monday August 10, 2026

No Mass

Tuesday August 11, 2026

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Michael Mura, d

Wednesday August 12, 2026

12:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Special Intentions

Thursday August 13, 2026

12:00 pm St John Mass

Int: Max Baltz, d; Wilma Wren d;

Marie Peters, d

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Deceased members of Mary &

Andrew Jansen Sr family

Friday August 14, 2026

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Deceased members of Zosso family

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mother Saturday August 15, 2026

9:00 am St John Mass

Int: Margie Baltz, d; Mike Thielemier, d; Dick & Sarah Thielemier, d

4:00 pm St Joseph Mass

Int: Parishioners

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Ferd & Anna Sorg family

Sunday August 16, 2026

8:00 am St John Mass

Int: Pamela Galvan, d Lee Taylor, d;

Dcd members of Benny & Anna

Thielemier family

10:30 am St Paul Mass

Int: Parishioners

Sacristan Schedule

August 15- Nick DeClerk August 16- Josh & Jill Neely
August 22- Alex Baltz August 23- Matt & Jennifer Hibbard
August 29- Susan Meier August 30- Scott & Abby Tyler

Financial Report	
August 6, 2026	\$10,338.26
2026 year to date	\$265,041.07
Children's Collection	\$84.00
St Joseph April 2026	\$3,523.32
DOLR July 2026	\$735.00
Food Bank, July 2026	\$866.32



BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER

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



Church Cleaning Schedule August 15- 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 August 15, 2026

Host Ministers: Dc Puello, Maggie Baltz

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Cups: Pauletta Walker, Rose Hutsell

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Avery Seagreaves, Valentina Nguyen

10:30 am Sunday August 16, 2026

Host Ministers: Dc Puello, Abby Tyler

Cups: Veronica Rose, Rene' Tyler

Cups: Angie DeClerk, Terri Jansen

Altar Servers: Mary Morgan, Kipton & Sawyer Jansen

6:00 pm Saturday August 22, 2026

Host Ministers: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Alex & Tiffany Baltz

Cups: Mitch & Teresa Baltz

Altar Servers: Leo & Etta Clark, Keegan Presley

10:30 am Sunday August 23, 2026

Host Ministers: Claire Garoutte, Cyndy Busick

Cups: Debbie Hibbard, Jill Neely

Cups: Jennifer Hibbard, Shelly James

Altar Servers: Owen Smith, Caroline Thielemier, Kogan Vaughn

6:00 pm Saturday August 29, 2026

Host Ministers: Susan Meier, Trish Thielemier

Cups: Rose Hutsell, Pauletta Walker

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Avery Seagraves, Valentina Nguyen

10:30 am Sunday August 30, 2026

Host Ministers: Monica Loyd, Michelle Olvey

Cups: Rene' Tyler, Veronica Rose

Cups: Jennifer Nichols, Brin Presley

Altar Servers: Austin James, Cash Cox, John Henry Garoutte

Ushers August:

Saturday: Joe Bergman, Bobby Meier, Kyle Sutton, Terry Throesch

Sunday: Joe Difani, Mike Higginbotham, Joe Tom Carol, Josh Neely, Brayden Tillie

Homebound and Nursing Home for August:

Cyndy Busick, Elaine Wallis, Brenda Liebhaber

KC Meeting: August 12th at 8:00 PM, meetings held at the KC Hall.

It is that time of year "Registration for PRE" scan the Q-R code and it will take you to the form. PRE starts September 9th at 6pm.



Dear Church community members,

I am very glad to greet you in the precious name of Jesus. I wish that you all had a refreshing & fruitful summer. It's time for us to prepare the students for school. We are looking forward to a new school year, religious education for our children & faith engaged education for our youth. God has got many blessings for us as we begin the new year. Let us not hesitate to pray God's blessings & seek for his wisdom. God's word tells us "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" -Proverbs 9:10. As we turn the first page of the book for the academic year, let us allow Christ to write stories of hard work & perseverance. As parents & teachers, let us shine the light of Christ wherever we are. Let us make use of the opportunities to teach, educate & inspire our students with Catholic faith & moral values. Together, let's work for the harvest of maturity & building our future Church. May God Bless all our efforts & plans and make them successful. May God Bless us and Keep us.

Pastor Fr. Samy

Online giving through Zeffy is now available at St Paul.

Online giving allow you to support St Paul with a one-time or recurring monthly gift using your phone, tablet or computer. It's secure, convenient and helps our parish plan for ministries throughout the year. Visit [https://](https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/organizations/stpaul-the-apostle-catholic-church-pocahontas-ar)

[www.zeffy.com/en-US/](https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/organizations/stpaul-the-apostle-catholic-church-pocahontas-ar)

[organizations/stpaul-the-apostle-catholic-church-pocahontas-ar](https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/organizations/stpaul-the-apostle-catholic-church-pocahontas-ar) or scan the QR code to get started.



SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:

Even though this is not considered a Holy Day of Obligation this year, however it is a very important Feast Day. **There will be Mass at St Paul Friday at 6 pm & Mass Saturday morning at St John at 9 am.**

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 Flanigan Smith, Luke Steimel, Dave Weick, Donna Baltz, Vivian Blackshear, Mike Cook, Tim Junkersfeld, Dorothy Hoelscher, Leonard Thielemier, Nekayah Thomas, Virginia Sacher, Brooke Junkersfeld, Lane Clayton, Jo Vatsula, Richard Jenkins, Blake Edwards, Dorothy Ward, Bonnie Schmidt, Elizabeth Smith, Diane Kimble Ramsey, Fr. James Schaefer, Samuel Thompson, Kelly McCandless, Roy Billeau, Paige Catt, Larry Weick, and Keith Broadway.

Good News!

August 9, 2026
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

1 Kings 19:9a, 11–13a / Romans 9:1–5 / Matthew 14:22–33

MIGUEL DULICK

In the first reading, Elijah is ready for anything—a whirlwind, an earthquake, a fire—because “the Lord will pass by” (1 Kings 19:11). But God comes tiptoeing, with a tiny whisper. Elijah, a giant of a prophet, covers his face like a child and wraps himself in the word of the Lord. Ordinarily, at this point, a homily would move on to the gospel. But in the second reading, from Romans, we are brought up short. Paul, a giant himself, would love a reassuring whisper from God. He is in utter agony, for the doubtful salvation of “my own brothers,” the Jews. Such is his distress that he wishes he could offer himself in exchange, even to the extent of being “accursed and separated from Christ” (literally, “anathema”) for “my kin.” (See Romans 9:3.) His anguish is heartbreaking, especially since it seems to be a prayer he has repeated over and over. Paul was no doubt thinking of Moses, who dramatically offered his own life to save the Israelites from God’s judgment after the golden calf: “[Lord,] if you would only forgive their sin! But if you will not, then blot me out of the book that you have written” (Exodus 32:32). Paul’s faith told him that Christ had opened the door of salvation to everyone, and even rejection by the chosen people could not close it. In fact, it confirmed its universal promise. A paradox perhaps, much like when Jesus walked on water, as we hear about in today’s gospel. ●

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Dear Padre

August 9, 2026

I am in my third year of sobriety. Can I still become a eucharistic minister if I do not partake in Christ’s blood?

Yes. Your personal sobriety practice has nothing to do with your eligibility for service as a minister of the Eucharist. Some would even argue that your commitment to sobriety is a powerful witness of your commitment to living a responsible and mature Catholic life. Instead of an obstacle to ministry, it is a shining example and witness of the power of God’s grace at work in your life.

Practically, since ministers of the Cup are often required to consume any remaining Precious Blood after holy Communion is distributed, it might be a good personal practice to make sure there are enough ministers present to perform this necessary step in ablution. If everyone is informed in advance, it contributes to the shared sense of reverence and respect that is required of a eucharistic minister. ●

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 Arokiasamy “Samy” Madhichettyirudayaraj (870) 892-3319
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

August 8, 2026 – August 16, 2026

St. John

Sun Aug 9: Tony Hausman (d); Special Intention; Living & deceased members of Jake & Dorthy Liebhaber family
Thur Aug 13: Max Baltz (d); Wilma Wren (d); Marie Peters (d)
Sat Aug 15 9:00AM, ASSUMPTION: Marge Baltz (d); Mike Thielemier (d); Dick & Sarah Thielemier (d)
Sun Aug 16: Pamela Galvan (d); Lee Taylor (d); Deceased members of the Benny & Anna Thielemier family

St. Paul

Sat Aug 8: Joseph & Joanna Thibeault (d)
Sun Aug 9: Parishioners
Tues Aug 11: Michael Mura (d)
Wed Aug 12: Special Intention
Thur Aug 13: Deceased members of Mary & Andrew Jansen Sr. family
Fri Aug 14 6:00PM, Assumption of the Blessed Mother: Deceased members of the Zosso family
Sat Aug 15: Ferd & Anna Sorg family (d)
Sun Aug 16: Parishioners

Ministry Schedule

	August 9	August16	August 23	August 30
Eucharistic Ministers	Jessica Stout Kelly Alphin Pat Wren Rebecca Steimel	Cathy Hausman Tina Sharp Jane Smith Stella Steimel	Cathy Hausman Tina Sharp Jane Smith Stella Steimel	Dwayne Capps Angie Capps Lori Steimel Joe Steimel
Servers	Henry Taylor Isaac Throesch Casyn Steimel	Jaxon Kasinger Max Hoose Parker Liebhaber	Wade Zitzelberger Holden Zitzelberger Madison Throesch	Lucy Throesch Caroline Stout Jaxon Steimel
Lectors	August: David Blevins & Sonny Throesch September: Lori Steimel & Rebecca Steimel			
Ushers	August: Ben Throesch & Jim Bergman September: Mike Taylor & Sonny Throesch			
Money Counters	August: Jessica Stout, Joe & Lori Stemel September: Elaine Wallis, Richard & Ellen Thielemier			

Weekly Financial Report

August 2, 2026 Loose Cash \$536.00 Checks & Envelopes: \$1475.00
Hall Rental: \$100.00

PASTOR SPEAKS: Dear Church Community Members, I am very glad to greet you in the precious name of Jesus. I wish that you all had a refreshing and fruitful summer. It’s time for us to prepare the students for school. We are looking forward to a new school year, religious education for our children and faith engaged education for our youth. God has got many blessings for us in store as we begin the new study year. Let us not hesitate to pray for God’s blessings and seek for his wisdom. God’s word tells us, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.”-Proverbs 9:10. As we turn to the first page of the book of the academic year, let us allow Christ to write stories of hard work and perseverance. As parents and teachers, let us shine the light of Christ wherever we are. Let us make use of the opportunities to teach, educate and inspire our students with Catholic faith and moral values. Together, let’s work for the harvest of maturity and building our future Church. May God bless all our efforts and plans and make them successful.

May God bless us and keep us. Pastor, Fr. Samy

BACK PACK BLESSING: This morning August 9, we will have our back-pack blessing at the end of Mass. Be sure and bring your back-pack and even if you forget, please come up for the blessing.

BRAD FOOD BANK COLLECTION: This mornings second collection will be for our area Food Bank.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: Even though this is not considered a Holy Day of Obligation this year, however it is a very important Feast Day. We will be having Mass at 9:00AM on Saturday August 15th.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSION APPEAL: Next week we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Today, nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support for this appeal helps them meet these faith formation and sacramental needs. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal.

ST PAUL SCHOOL UPCOMING SCHEDULE: Back to School pool Party for St. Paul School Families – City waterpark 6:00-8:00PM; Orientation – August 11, 4:00-6:00PM; Pre-K and New Family @ 4:30PM and Kindergarten @ 5:30PM both in Cafeteria. Bring your supplies & meet your teachers; First Day of School – August 17, Parents, join us at the flagpole at 8:15 to pray for a safe school year for all students and staff at St. Paul.

100th ANNIVERSAY OF CURRENT CHURCH: On October 11th we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the dedication of our current Church. Mass that Sunday will be at 10:30AM with a reception following in the Parish Hall. Bishop Taylor will be here to celebrate, as well as other Priest that have served our Parish. We have been making plans for that very special day, but if anyone would like to offer any ideas, please contact a Parish Council member or Jane.

PRAY FOR: All the sick that request our prayers, especially, Bishop Anthony Taylor, Doris Flanigan, Samuel Thompson, Lisa (Baltz) Riggs, River Wood, Diane Kimble Ramsey, Caren Kiefer, Dennis Weisenbach, Bonny Schmidt, Pam Murphy, Bridgette Kasinger, Danny McCurdy, Paula Johnson, David Cissel, Owen Rowe, Jake Kasinger, Sharon Thielemier (Patrick), Karen O’Gara, and all those listed in our petition book. May God grant them healing.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Welcoming Party **POTLUCK**

FOR OUR NEW PRIEST

Father Samy!

Let's give Father Samy a warm welcome and show
our gratitude as he begins this new chapter
with our parish family.



**SUNDAY,
AUGUST 23**



**AFTER THE
10:30 MASS**



BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH TO SHARE

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I am in my third year of sobriety. Can I still become a eucharistic minister if I do not partake in Christ's blood?

Yes. Your personal sobriety practice has nothing to do with your eligibility for service as a minister of the Eucharist. Some would even argue that your commitment to sobriety is a powerful witness of your commitment to living a responsible and mature Catholic life. Instead of an obstacle to ministry, it is a shining example and witness of the power of God's grace at work in your life.

Practically, since ministers of the Cup are often required to consume any remaining Precious Blood after holy Communion is distributed, it might be a good personal practice to make sure there are enough ministers present to perform this necessary step in ablution. If everyone is informed in advance, it contributes to the shared sense of reverence and respect that is required of a eucharistic minister. ●

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



MARIANA C. / CATHOPIC

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

We live immersed in a culture of speed, immediacy, and haste—a culture of “discard” and indifference that prevents us from pausing along the way and drawing near to acknowledge the needs and suffering that surround us. In the parable, when the Samaritan saw the wounded man, he did not “pass by.” Instead, he looked upon him with an open and attentive gaze—the very gaze of Jesus.

MESSAGE ON WORLD DAY OF THE SICK,
ROME, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

Monday

August 10
St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr
2 Cor 9:6–10
Jn 12:24–26

Tuesday

August 11
St. Clare, Virgin
Ez 2:8–3:4
Mt 18:1–5, 10, 12–14

Wednesday

August 12
Weekday
Ez 9:1–7; 10:18–22
Mt 18:15–20

Thursday

August 13
Weekday
Ez 12:1–12
Mt 18:21–19:1

Friday

August 14
St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr
Ez 16:1–15, 60, 63 or 16:59–63
Mt 19:3–12

Saturday

August 15
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab
1 Cor 15:20–27
Lk 1:39–56

Sunday

August 16
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 56:1, 6–7
Rom 11:13–15, 29–32
Mt 15:21–28



ANDREY_POPOV / SHUTTERSTOCK

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