



I Just Told You!

MIGUEL DULICK

Would it surprise you to know that Jesus uses the same Greek verb to chase Peter away—“Get behind me, Satan!” (Matthew 16:23) that he used to call him in the first place—“Come after me” (Matthew 4:19)? Pity the translator who must assign opposite meanings to the same word! Jesus changed Simon’s name to Peter when he called him, and now he changes it to Satan for his demotion. But, as harsh as the rebuke is, maybe we could say Jesus does want Peter behind him, but not *too* far behind. In fact, immediately after dealing with Peter, Jesus issues a general call, using the same “trigger” word: “Whoever wishes to *come after* me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.”

The cross! That’s how the controversy started, when Peter “took Jesus aside” (literally, “collared” him) to forbid even the thought of any passion or any cross. (See Matthew 16:22.)

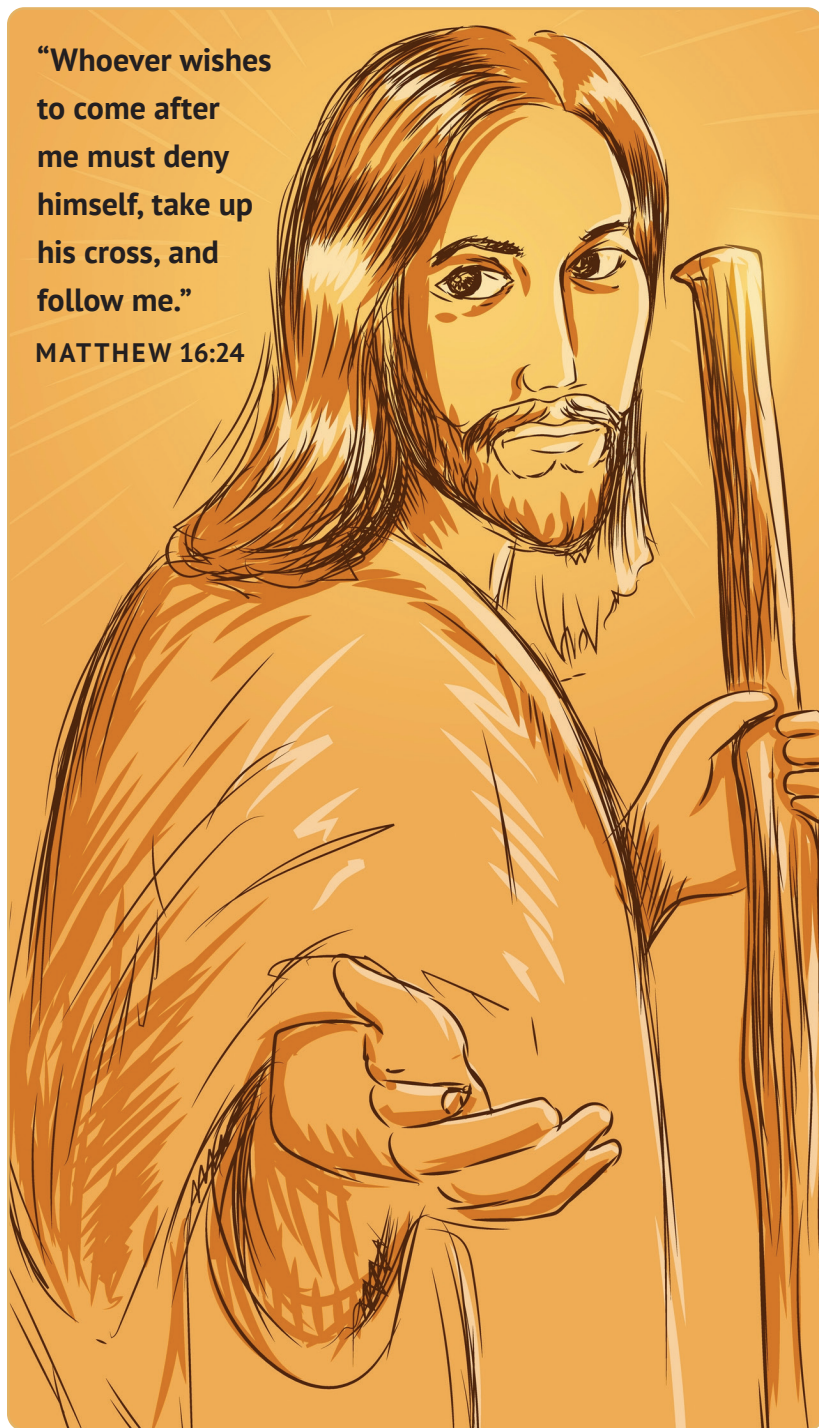
How am I tempted as Peter was to avoid any talk of a cross? I don’t even want to admit I’m a sinner, much less that there is a cross for me. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, has some advice for all of us who think like Satan: “Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God,” and “Do not conform yourself to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God” (Romans 12:1–2). Everything for Jesus. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

**“Whoever wishes
to come after
me must deny
himself, take up
his cross, and
follow me.”**

MATTHEW 16:24



Reflect

What cross are you carrying? Can you unite it with Jesus’ cross and offer it as prayer?

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 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 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 highly 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 Gottsponer at (501) 664-0340, ext. 425. Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207.

Mass Schedule

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time August 29, 2026

4:00 pm St Joseph Mass

Int: Parishioners

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Stuart Wortham, d

Sunday August 30, 2026

8:00 am St John Mass

Int: Margie Baltz, d; Bob Wren, d Mike Thielemier, d;

10:30 am St Paul Mass

Int: Parishioners

Monday August 31, 2026

No Mass

Tuesday September 1, 2026

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Danny Earsa, d

Wednesday September 2, 2026

9:00 am St Paul Mass

Int: Justin Baltz, d

Thursday September 3 2026

12:00 pm St John Mass

Int: Edgar Throesch, d; Dan Joe, Dave & Jennifer Wren, d; L/D members of Will & Katie Thielemier family

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Janice Lee & Nadeine Tyler, d

Friday September 4, 2026

9:00 am St Paul Mass

Int: Justin Baltz, d

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time September 6, 2026

4:00pm St Joseph Mass

Int: Parishioners

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Patricia Bell, d

Sunday September 7, 2026

8:00 am St John Mass

Int: Dickie Flanigan, d; Madeleine Throesch, d; Jerry & Betty Lindsey (65th Anniversary)

10:30 am St Paul Mass

Int: Parishioners

Sacristan Schedule

September 5- Nick DeClerk September 6- Jeff Evers
September 12- Alex Baltz September 13- Josh & Jill Neely
September 19- Chris Baltz September 20- Matt & Jennifer Hibbard

Financial Report	
August 26, 2026	\$7,740.71
2026 year to date	\$288,539.34
Children's Collection	\$85.65
St Joseph July 2026	\$2,289.00
DOLR July 2026	\$735.00
Food Bank, July 2026	\$866.32



On-line giving available through Zeffy. Scan the QR code to begin.

Church Cleaning Schedule Sept. 5 Judith Meier, Anna Mae Higginbotham, Barbara Seagraves, Kathy Adkins . **To volunteer to join a group & help maintain our church call the office or ask someone to join a group.**

LADIES OF ALL AGES! Do you want to know how to hear God's voice amid all the noise?? Sign up for *BECOMING MORE: LIVING YOUR FIAT EVERY DAY!* *A time for prayer, encouragement, fellowship, and renewal.* \$25 will cover the cost of materials, lunch & snacks. Fr. John Marconi and Debbie Eckert have years of experience in leading retreats. October 9 6:30-8:30; October 10 8:30-4:00. Return your registration to the church office or follow the QR code provided. Registration forms at the doors of the church.



Eucharistic Ministers/Altar Servers Schedule

6:00 pm Saturday September 5, 2026

Host Ministers: Mitch & Teresa Baltz

Cups: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Alex & Tiffany Baltz

Altar servers: Jake Baltz, Keegan Presley, Valentina Nguyen

10:30 am Sunday September 6, 2026

Host Ministers: Angie DeClerk, Terri Jansen

Cups: Jill Neely, Veronica Rose

Cups: Rene' Tyler, Abby Tyler

Altar servers: Owen Smith, Aven Thielemier, Caroline Thielemier

6:00 pm Saturday September 12, 2026

Host Ministers: Susan Meier, Paige Radcliff

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Cups: Shea Niswonger, Pauletta Walker

Altar servers: Abel Johnson, Peyton & Reese Radcliff

10:30 am Sunday September 13, 2026

Host Ministers: Cyndy Busick, Shelly James

Cups: Claire Garoutte, Monica Loyd

Cups: Debbie Hibbard, Jennifer Hibbard

Altar servers: Zoey Hibbard, Dru & Evelyn Steimel

6:00 pm Saturday September 19, 2026

Host Ministers: De Tate, Maggie Baltz

Cups: Trish Thielemier, Kelly Throesch

Cups: Rose Hutsell, Pauletta Walker

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Aubrey & Cannon Hogan

10:30 am Sunday September 20, 2026

Host Ministers: De Tate, Brin Presley

Cups: Michelle Olvey, Jennifer Nichols

Cups: Terri Jansen, Jill Neely

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

Nursing Home & Homebound September: Debbie Hibbard, Judith Meier, Veronica Rose

OCIA- Class begins September 13, 2026 @ 9:00 am in the Parish Life center.

Lectors for September

Saturday: Tiffany Baltz

Sunday: Jill Neely

Ushers for September:

Saturday: Joey Radcliff, Joe Bergman

Sunday: Travis DeClerk, Chris Hoggard, Marty Moore, James Presley

First Saturday devotion in honor of our Blessed Mother
Saturday Sept. 5th. Holy hour and confessions begin at 11:00 am.

Online giving through Zeffy is now available at St Paul.

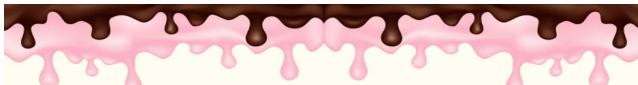
Make your Offertory Automatic. Did you know you can set up recurring monthly gifts to St Paul Church? Recurring gifts provide steady support for our parish & make it easier for you to remain faithful in your stewardship, even when your away. Set up your monthly gift today at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/organizations/stpaul-the-apostle-catholic-church-pocahontas-ar> or scan the QR code. * **Important**



information: remember when checking out at the end of the registration process, you'll see an option to add a contribution to help cover Zeffy's platform fees, you can choose to give or not to give that's your option. Please use the dropdown menu.

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





Ice Cream Social

Bring your friends and family for an afternoon of delicious ice cream and all the toppings while supporting our classrooms!

Wednesday Sept. 2, 2026	3:15-4:30 \$5 per person
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St. Paul Parish Life Center

#saberthemoment




Please pray for: Bishop Anthony Taylor, Kogan Vaughn. Samuel Thompson. *We are updating our parish prayer list. If you would like to have a loved one added to the prayer list, please call the church office. To help keep our prayer list current, names will remain on the list for 30 days. If continued prayers are needed after that time, please contact the office to have the name remain on the list. Thank you for helping us keep our prayer list update, and please continue to keep all those in need of prayer in

Good News!

August 30, 2026

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Jeremiah 20:7–9 / Romans 12:1–2 / Matthew 16:21–27

MIGUEL DULICK

Would it surprise you to know that Jesus uses the same Greek verb to chase Peter away—“Get behind me, Satan!” (Matthew 16:23) that he used to call him in the first place—“Come after me” (Matthew 4:19)? Pity the translator who must assign opposite meanings to the same word! Jesus changed Simon’s name to Peter when he called him, and now he changes it to Satan for his demotion. But, as harsh as the rebuke is, maybe we could say Jesus does want Peter behind him, but not *too* far behind. In fact, immediately after dealing with Peter, Jesus issues a general call, using the same “trigger” word: “Whoever wishes to *come after* me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.”

The cross! That’s how the controversy started, when Peter “took Jesus aside” (literally, “collared” him) to forbid even the thought of any passion or any cross. (See Matthew 16:22.)

How am I tempted as Peter was to avoid any talk of a cross? I don’t even want to admit I’m a sinner, much less that there is a cross for me. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, has some advice for all of us who think like Satan: “Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God,” and “Do not conform yourself to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God” (Romans 12:1–2). Everything for Jesus. ●

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Dear Padre

August 30, 2026

Are we required to disobey or break an evil law?

According to St. Thomas Aquinas, a just law has four characteristics. It must be (1) an ordinance of reason, (2) for the common good, (3) properly promulgated, and (4) by a legitimate authority. According to St. Augustine, evil is a lack of something that should be there. When applied to law, if one of the four characteristics is missing, the law lacks something that should be there, and thus is evil. An unjust law, in other words, is an evil law. As Christians, we are generally encouraged to obey the laws of the state. As the Apostle Paul states, “Let every person be subordinate to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God” (Romans 13:1). At the same time, we also have the responsibility of forming our consciences according to God’s revelation in Scripture and Tradition as interpreted by the divinely ordained teaching authority of the Church. Although we are not bound to follow an unjust law, the degree to which we should actively disobey it depends on the level of evil the law promotes. Because of its serious nature, a law promoting abortion, for example, should be actively resisted through peaceful protests and appropriate legal and civil activism. Laws that promote lesser evils need to be carefully evaluated by Church authorities and our own well-informed consciences. ●

Fr. Dennis J. Billy, 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 29, 2026 – September 6, 2026

St. John

Sun Aug 30: Marge Baltz (d); Mike Thielemier (d); Bob Wren (d)
Thur Sept 3: Edgar Throesch (d); Dan Joe, Dave & Jennifer Wren (d); Living & deceased members of the Will & Katie Thielemier family
Sun Sept 6: Dickie Flanigan (d); Madeleine Throesch (d); Jerry & Betty Lindsey (65th anniversary)

St. Paul

Sat Aug 29: Stuart Worthingham (d)
Sun Aug 30: Parishioners
Tues Sept 1: Danny Earsa (d)
Wed Sept 2: Justin Baltz (d)
Thur Sept 3: Janice Lee & Nadene Tyler (d)
Fri Sept 4: Justin Baltz (d)
Sat Sept 5: Patricia Bell (d)
Sun Sept 6: Parishioners

Ministry Schedule

	August 30	September 6	September 13	September 20
Eucharistic Ministers	Dwayne Capps Angie Capps Lori Steimel Joe Steimel	Dwayne Capps Angie Capps Lori Steimel Joe Steimel	Becky Brown Vernon Hausman Candace Steimel Pam Durbin	Becky Brown Vernon Hausman Candace Steimel Pam Durbin
Servers	Lucy Throesch Caroline Stout Jaxon Steimel	Haley Stout Madeleine Throesch Isaac Throesch	Caroline Stout Parker Liebhaber Jaxon Steimel	Casyn Steimel Catarina Throesch Madison Throesch
Lectors	September: Lori Steimel & Rebecca Steimel October: Maria Taylor & Amy McKenzie			
Ushers	September: Mike Taylor & Sonny Throesch October: Mike Taylor & Sonny Throesch			
Money Counters	September: Elaine Wallis, Richard & Ellen Thielemier October: Lori Bergman, Nick Wren, Donner & Sara Mulock			

Weekly Financial Report

August 23, 2026 Loose Cash .00 Checks & Envelopes: \$.00

CLEAN UP DAYS: To prepare the grounds and hall for our 100th Anniversary, we will be having work days on September 12 and 26th. We will start at 9:00AM or feel free to come earlier. We plan on doing a deep cleaning in the hall and work will be done on all flower beds. Bring any tools that you think can be used.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: As we prepare to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our beautiful church, we want this special milestone to be a celebration worthy of the generations who have worshiped, served, and sacrificed here over the past century. A second collection will be taken up **August 30** and September 6 to help with expenses associated with our 100th Anniversary Celebration, including church beautification and décor, celebration and meal expenses, and other preparations for this special occasion. Your generosity will help us honor the past, celebrate the present, and prepare our church to welcome parishioners, former parishioners, family, friends and special guests as we commemorate 100 years of faith and community. Thank you for helping make this once-in-a-century celebration a beautiful and memorable one for our parish! If neither of these dates work for you, please just drop an envelope marked Anniversary, or turn into office.

100th ANNIVERSARY 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.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL: Bring your friends and family for an afternoon of delicious ice cream and all the toppings while supporting our classrooms! Wednesday September 2nd, 3:15 – 4:30 at St. Paul’s Parish Life Center. \$5.00 a person.

PRE CLASSES: PRE will begin September 9th at 6:00PM. You can call Monica at St. Paul’s office to register.

OCIA: Classes begin September 13, 2026 at 9:00AM in the Parish Life Center.

THANK YOU: The family of Margie Baltz would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the members of St. John’s and St. Paul’s Parish for your generous contributions, thoughtfulness and prayers during this difficult time. Your kindness, support and prayers have meant so much to our family and have brought us comfort during our time of loss. We are truly grateful for your love and compassion.
The Margie Baltz family

EUCARIST ADORATION: The Eucharist is the source of all your spiritual and apostolic vitality; because with your attitude of adoration, you deepen in faith, hope and charity. In this way, you direct your whole life towards God, and, therefore towards the mystery of man and of concrete human history.” (St. John Paul II)
Please call 870-810-0612 for questions or more information.

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

Dear Padre,

Are we required to disobey or break an evil law?

According to St. Thomas Aquinas, a just law has four characteristics. It must be (1) an ordinance of reason, (2) for the common good, (3) properly promulgated, and (4) by a legitimate authority.

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missing, the law lacks something that should be there, and thus is evil. An unjust law, in other words, is an evil law. As Christians, we are generally encouraged to obey the laws of the state. As the Apostle Paul states, “Let every person be subordinate to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God” (Romans 13:1). At the same time, we also have the responsibility of forming our consciences according to God’s revelation in Scripture and Tradition as interpreted by the divinely ordained teaching authority of the Church. Although we are not bound to follow an unjust law, the degree to which we should actively disobey it depends on the level of evil the law promotes. Because of its serious nature, a law promoting abortion, for example, should be actively resisted through peaceful protests and appropriate legal and civil activism. Laws that promote lesser evils need to be carefully evaluated by Church authorities and our own well-informed consciences. ●

Fr. Dennis J. Billy, CSsR / DearPadre.org



MIND AND I / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

War is back in vogue, and a zeal for war is spreading. The principle established after the Second World



War, which prohibited nations from using force to violate the borders of others, has been completely undermined. Peace is no longer sought as a gift and a desirable good in itself.... Instead, peace is sought through weapons as a condition for asserting one’s own dominion.

ADDRESS TO DIPLOMATIC CORE, ROME, JANUARY 9, 2026

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Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](https://dearpadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday

August 31

Weekday

1 Cor 2:1–5

Lk 4:16–30

Tuesday

September 1

Weekday

1 Cor 2:10b–16

Lk 4:31–37

Wednesday

September 2

Weekday

1 Cor 3:1–9

Lk 4:38–44

Thursday

September 3

St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

1 Cor 3:18–23

Lk 5:1–11

Friday

September 4

Weekday

1 Cor 4:1–5

Lk 5:33–39

Saturday

September 5

Weekday

1 Cor 4:6b–15

Lk 6:1–5

Sunday

September 6

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 33:7–9

Rom 13:8–10

Mt 18:15–20