



Close Enough!

MIGUEL DULICK

It is the fourth Sunday of Advent. When Christmas is this close, one takes that final leap. Isaiah is centuries from Christmas, but he cannot wait! He sees the “sign” as clear as day: “the young woman, pregnant and about to bear a son” (Isaiah 7:14). And how about that Son! None other than “Emmanuel” himself—God-With-Us! Paul, too, is bursting at the seams! Inspired by what he calls “the obedience of faith” (Romans 5), he is excited to see the gospel thriving even among the Gentiles. For him, the “Spirit of holiness” is a gift offered to all—Christmas every day, you might say.

Speaking of “obedience of faith,” Joseph is the perfect example. The word “obey” comes from the same root as “to hear,” and Joseph has almost supernatural ears! Matthew, the former tax collector, tells “how the birth of Jesus Christ came about” in today’s gospel reading like a bookkeeper—the Holy Spirit in Column A, Joseph in Column B, with Mary in the middle. But when an angel whispers to Joseph at night, his dream comes true: “he took his wife into his home.” Everything is set for Emmanuel!

So, the Bible is brimming with Christmas, that is, “God-With-Us,” from end to end. And when a virgin can conceive, are any of us exempt from “birthing” Jesus in our midst? Even when a “happy holiday” seems impossible in the midst of war or violence or poverty, when our ears hear only silence, let’s sing Christmas carols every day! ●



SCAN TO
LEARN ABOUT
AUTHOR
MIGUEL
DULICK

Reflect

How am I at listening? Can I find new insights in old stories that I think I know so well?



The angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus.”

MATTHEW 1:20–21

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: Karen Liebhaber 897-0698
 Pastoral Council Vice Chairperson: Allison Swann 219-9824
 Adult Inquiry Class, OCIA: Jamey Sullinger-758-0246
 Youth Minister: Dylan Clark 892-3319 catholicillym@gmail.com
 Youth Ministry Core Team: Christie Yemma, Larry Weick, Rob & Michelle Olvey, Terri Jansen, Christina Thielemier
 Lectors: Kathi Bergman 378-2081
 Ushers: Joseph Difani & Doug Thielemier
 Altar Servers: Tiffany Baltz: 810-2523
 Catholic Outreach: Teresa Baltz 930-5700
 Finance Committee Chairperson: Ben DeClerk 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 892-5639

Mass Schedule

Forth Sunday of Advent
Saturday, December 20, 2025
 4:00 PM St Joseph Mass
 Int: Parishioners
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Earledean Baltz, d

Sunday December 21, 2025
 8:00 AM St John Mass
 Int: Mary & Greg Thielemier, d Pat Parker, d
 10:30 AM St Paul Mass
 Int: Parishioners

Monday December 22, 2025
No Mass

Tuesday December 23, 2025
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Bill Wylle, & All previous St Paul Priests

Wednesday December 24, 2025
 4:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Dr Ralph, Wilma, Kevin Ungerank, Stuart Wortham, d and Keith Sutton, d
 6:30 PM St John Mass
 Int: Russ Thielemier, d & Aggie (Barnes) Summers, d
 10:30 PM Midnight Mass
 Int: Paul Schallert, d

Thursday, December 25, 2025
 9 AM St Joseph Mass
 Int: Parishioners

Friday, December 26, 2025
 9:00 AM St Paul Mass
 Int: Bob Frankenberger, d

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Saturday, December 27, 2025
 4:00 PM St Joseph Mass
 Int: Parishioners
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Monica Baltz, d and Ronnie Rose, d

Sunday December 28, 2025
 8:00 AM St John Mass
 Int: Madeline Throesch, d & Father Vallapaneni Mariadass, 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
 December 24- 4PM-Susan Meier **Midnight Mass**- Alex Baltz
 December 27- Nick DeClerk December 28- Josh & Jill Neely
 January 3- Joan Gross January 4- Jeff Evers

Financial Report	
December 18, 2025	\$14,592.27
2025 year to date	\$441,730.87
Children’s Collection	\$172.00
St Joseph, November	\$5,204.00
DOLR	\$8,149.00
Food Bank, November	\$1,275.00



BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER

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



Church Cleaning Schedule Dec 28 - Susie Roberts, Donna Lowe, Bridget Tedder, and Jeanette Thielemier. 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

4:00 PM Wednesday December 24, Children's Mass

Host Ministers: Kim Hills, Monica Loyd

Cups: Mitch & Teresa Baltz

Cups: Brin Presley, Claire Garoutte

Altar Servers: Cash Cox, Keegan Presley, Owen Smith

10:30 PM Wednesday December 24 Midnight Mass

Host Ministers: Alex & Tiffany Baltz

Cups: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Austin James, Dru & Evelyn Steimel

6:00 PM Saturday December 27, 2025

Host Ministers: Mitch & Teresa Baltz

Cups: Trish Thielemier, Kelly Throesch

Cups: Rose Hutsell, Chris Baltz

Altar Servers: Luke, Jacob, & Blakely Jansen

10:30 AM Sunday December 28, 2025

Host Ministers: Jill Neely, Shelly James

Cups: Leroy & Jennifer Nichols

Cups: Michelle Olvey, Abby Tyler

Altar Servers: Mathias Duran, Owen Smith, Caroline Thielemier

6:00 PM Saturday January 3, 2026

Host Ministers: Tiffany & Maggie Baltz

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Cups: Tom & Chris Baltz

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Keegan Presley, Valentina Nguyen

10:30 AM Sunday January 4, 2026

Host Ministers: Kim Hills, Monica Loyd

Cups: Angie DeClerk, Debbie Hibbard

Cups: Rene' Tyler, Cyndy Busick

Altar Servers: Hayden Moore, Cash Cox, Aven Thielemier

Knight of the Month: Mitch Baltz

Knight Family of the Month: Mary Ann & Joe Tom Carroll

Save some time in kitchen and have the Knights cook for you! The KC's will be smoking for Christmas this year again! Please contact Matt Fair @ 501-412-3324, Facebook, or any members of the KC. They will be smoking Ribs for \$20, and Boston Butts will be \$35. Deadline 12/22.

Homebound and Nursing Home Ministry

January 2026: Chris Baltz & Maria Dickson

Call the Church office to order your poinsettia for the Christmas Holiday. Poinsettias will be \$20.00 each.

Youth Ministry will be starting a parish food pantry. We will eventually be looking into a larger program, but would like to start by asking for donations from the parish. Please bring any nonperishable food you can spare to the parish office.

Church Office will be closed December 24th-26th, and January 1st-2nd. If an emergency occurs please call the church secretary, the phone number is in the bulletin. Have a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Christmas Eve Mass Schedule

4:00 PM Childres's Mass 6:30 PM St John

10:30 PM Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

9:00 AM St Joseph

New Year Eve

4:00 PM St Joesph 6:00 PM St Paul

New Years Day

9:00 AM St Paul 12:00 PM St John

January Ushers:

Saturday: Benny Baltz, Nick DeClerk

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

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, Pam Flanigan, Becky Catron, Tanya Flanigan Smith, Luke Steimel, Donna Baltz, Vivian Blackshear, Dave Weick, Mike Cook, Christina Smith, Dorothy Hoelscher, Tim Junkersfeld, Arkie DeClerk, Leonard Thielemier, Nekayah Thomas, Virginia Sacher, Brooke Junkersfeld, Joe T Carroll, Lane Clayton, Jo Vatsula, Gladys Zosso, Richard Jenkins, Jim & Shirley Lamb, Steve Bodden, Linda Davenport, Dorothy Ward, Bonnie Schmidt, and Keith Broadway.

Good News!

December 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)

Isaiah 7:10-14 / Romans 1:1-7 / Matthew 1:18-24

MIGUEL DULICK

It is the fourth Sunday of Advent. When Christmas is this close, one takes that final leap. Isaiah is centuries from Christmas, but he cannot wait! He sees the “sign” as clear as day: “the young woman, pregnant and about to bear a son” (Isaiah 7:14). And how about that Son! None other than “Emmanuel” himself—God-With-Us! Paul, too, is bursting at the seams! Inspired by what he calls “the obedience of faith” (Romans 5), he is excited to see the gospel thriving even among the Gentiles. For him, the “Spirit of holiness” is a gift offered to all—Christmas every day, you might say.

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So, the Bible is brimming with Christmas, that is, “God-With-Us,” from end to end. And when a virgin can conceive, are any of us exempt from “birthing” Jesus in our midst? Even when a “happy holiday” seems impossible in the midst of war or violence or poverty, when our ears hear only silence, let’s sing Christmas carols every day! ●

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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)

Dear Padre

December 21, 2025

I went to confession, and then, months later, my priest was removed for alcoholism and theft. Is my confession still worthy?

Your confession is not dependent on the worthiness or the unworthiness of the priest. Your confession is made to Jesus; the priest is a witness who pronounces the words of absolution that Jesus intended in the sacrament. “From the moment that a sacrament is celebrated in accordance with the intention of the Church, the power of Christ and his Spirit acts in and through it, independently of the personal holiness of the minister” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1128).

The question of the efficacy of the sacrament and the unworthiness of the minister who performs the sacrament in the name of the Church is not new. During the time of persecution, in the early centuries of the Church, some people, including priests and bishops, avoided martyrdom by offering the required oblation to Caesar. Later, they repented and returned to the Christian community, a community that included the surviving family and friends of the men and women who were martyred. The question was asked, and with some animated energy, “How could these ministers who sinned to save their own lives now represent the Church?” The answer, arrived at with patience and discernment, is that the minister is only the representative of the sacrament, not the source of the sacrament. Jesus is faithful, even when his ministers have been unfaithful. ●

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

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Mass Intentions

December 20, 2025 – December 28, 2025

<p><u>St. John</u> Sun Dec 21: Mary & Greg Thielemier (d); Pat Parker (d) Wed Dec 24, 6:30 PLAY, MASS FOLLOWING: Russ Thielemier (d); Aggie (Barnes) Summers(d) Sun Dec 28: Madeline Throesch (d); Father Vallapaneni Mariadass (d)</p> <p><u>St. Paul</u> Sat Dec 20: (d) Sun Dec 21: For the Parishioners Tues Dec 23: Bill Wylie (d); All previous St. Paul Priests Wed Dec 24, 4:00PM: Dr, Ralph, Wilma and Kevin Ungerank, Stuart Wortham (d); Keith Sutton (d) 10:30PM: Paul Schallert (d) Thur Dec 25: 9AM at St. Joseph: For the Parishioners Fri Dec 26: Bob Frankenberger (d) Sat Dec 27: Monica Baltz (d) ; Ronnie Rose (d) Sun Dec 28: For the Parishioners</p>
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Ministry Schedule

	December 21st	December 28th	January 4	January 11
Eucharistic Ministers	Stella Steimel Lori Steimel Joe Steimel Becky Brown	Stella Steimel Lori Steimel Joe Steimel Becky Brown	Dwayne Capps Angie Capps Vernon Hausman Candace Steimel	Dwayne Capps Angie Capps Vernon Hausman Candace Steimel
Servers	Jaxon Kasinger Madeleine Throesch Max Hoose	Lucy Throesch Caroline Stout Jaxon Steimel	Wade Zitzelberger Holden Zitzelberger Casyn Steimel	Max Hoose Madison Throesch Jaxon Kasinger
Lectors	December: Jessica Stout & Amy McKenzie January: David Blevins & Brenda Liebhaber			
Ushers	December: Joe Steimel & Dwayne Capps January: Dwayne Hausman & Don Liebhaber			
Money Counters	December: Bonnie Schmidt, Don & Brenda Liebhaber January: Richard & Ellen Thielemier, Elaine Wallis			

Weekly Financial Report

December 14, 2025	Loose Cash:	\$196.00	Checks & Envelopes:	\$1455.00
	National Retirement:	\$300.00	Immaculate Conception :	\$422.50
	Poinsettias :	\$120.00		

<i>Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule</i>				
	December 24th	December 25th	December 31st	January 1st
<i>St. John</i>	<i>6:00PM Carols 6:30PM Children's Play Mass After Play</i>			<i>12:00 Noon Mass</i>
St. Paul	4:00PM Mass 10:30PM Mass		6:00PM Mass	9:00AM Mass
St. Joseph		9:00AM Mass	4:00PM Mass	

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: This special collection is taken up in all parishes across Arkansas on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. It supports the Clergy Welfare Fund. Our priests have dedicated their lives to ministering and serving our families. This fund allows us to give back by providing care for retired, senior and infirm priests in our diocese. For more information, contact the Stewardship and Development Office at (501) 664-0340.

CHRISTMAS SERVERS: Henry Taylor, Perry Throesch, Parker Liebhaber

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS: You can place in an envelope with your loved ones' name and drop in basket or give to Tina Sharp or Jane Smith.

CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS: We will be decorating Church immediately following 8:00AM Mass this Sunday (Dec. 21st). All help will be appreciated.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY: Practice will be after 8:00AM Mass this Sunday (Dec. 21st).

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: We will be having an informal gathering in the Parish Hall with doors opening at 7:00PM. There will be cards, and music from phone. Bring snacks and drinks. The cover charge will be canned goods for the Food Bank.

EUCHARIST ADORATION: It seems that adoration chapels draw people closer to God, deeper into the spiritual life and provides something people desperately need at this time ... a place set apart for people to experience God in the silence they so desperately need (Matthew Kelly). Please call 870-810-0612 for questions or more information.

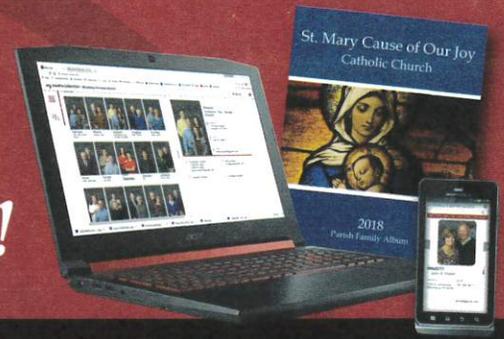
PRAY FOR: All the sick that request our prayers, especially, Bishop Anthony Taylor, Hattie Martin, Dennis Weisenbach, Mike Thielemier, Father Matthew Flatly (diocese of Jefferson City), Doris Flanigan, Bonny Schmidt, Marie Peters, Chelsea Martin, Mark Throesch, Johnathan Wren, Pam Murphy, Bob Wren, Treva Throesch, Bridgette Kasinger, Danny McCurdy, Paula Johnson, David Cissel, Owen Rowe, Dennis Burrow, Jake Kasinger, , Dickie Flanigan, Sharon Thielemier (Patrick), Betty Baltz, Karen O'Gara, Julie Session (Deacon Papini's Daughter), Earnie Durbin, Gladys Zosso, and all those listed in our petition book. May God grant them healing.

St Paul the Apostle Committee Groups

Don't hesitate to get in touch with a committee chairperson to join a group.

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE Plans and hosts parish potlucks, receptions, Golden Agers party	Jeanette Thielemier	870-378-5557
CHURCH CLEANING A group of 5 m/l cleans the church weekly.	JoAnn Guterman	501-266-0164
ADORATION Can sign up for an hour weekly or as a substitute. Can visit anytime during Adoration hours.	Joan Gross	870-810-0612
GOOD NEIGHBOR COMMITTEE Organizes meals for families after funerals; can help with calling members to bring food or help at the meals.	Patty Throesch	870-378-2630
CHURCH USHERS Takes up collections, hands out bulletins,	Joe Difani Doug Thielemier	870-378-5111 870-378-2267
PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Teaching children not attending St. Paul School the faith. Includes grades 1-12. Teachers & subs always needed.	Monica Loyd	870-892-3319
YOUTH MINISTRY Provides faith growth for our teens through activities at parish & diocesan events	Dylan Clark	870-892-3319
CATHOLIC OUTREACH Organizes faith studies for the Parish	Teresa Baltz	870-930-5700
A/V SYSTEM Operates A/V system from the Choir loft for 10:30 Mass	Joseph Jansen	870-202-9896
CONFIRMATION Prepares the youth of confirmation age for the sacrament	Joseph Jansen	870-202-9896
LECTORS Reading and announcements at Mass	Kathi Bergman	870-378-2081
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Active men's group - provides support activities for both parishes	Jeremy Stout	870-810-2356
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS With training, assists in distributing Holy Communion during Mass or to the homebound & nursing homes.	Church Office	870-378-3319
ALTAR SERVERS Youth are trained to assist the priests during Mass	Tiffany Baltz	870-810-2523
SACRISTANS Trained to set up and assist (as needed) for Mass	Need someone to take over	
OCIA Faith formation for those wanting to join the Church	Jamey Sullinger	870-758-0246
Choir Saturday evening, Funerals, Easter Vigil and Midnight Mass	Catherine Jarrett	870-810-7349

Dear Church family, It's time for a New Directory!



*Celebrating faith.
Connecting families.
Sharing hope.*

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families, and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

Directory Committee

Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

- Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at the church or simply go online and follow the instructions below. If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!
- Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church! You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Set your appointment with Universal today!

*Gathering families,
Connecting generations.*



Online Scheduling Available!

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter ar166 in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.**

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GEMINI

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

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV



I think it is important for all of us to learn how to listen more, to enter into dialogue. First and foremost, with the Lord: always listen to the word of God. Then also listen

to others, to know how to build bridges, to know how to listen without judging, not closing the doors [and] thinking that we have all the truth and no one else can tell us anything.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 11, 2025

Monday

December 22
Advent Weekday
1 Sm 1:24–28
Lk 1:46–56

Tuesday

December 23
Advent Weekday
Mal 3:1–4, 23–24
Lk 1:57–66

Wednesday

December 24
Advent Weekday
2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16
Lk 1:67–79

Thursday

December 25
The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Is 52:7–10
Heb 1:1–6
Jn 1:1–18 or 1:1–5, 9–14

Friday

December 26
St. Stephen, the First Martyr
Acts 6:8–10;
7:54–59
Mt 10:17–22

Saturday

December 27
St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
1 Jn 1:1–4
Jn 20:1a, 2–8

Sunday

December 28
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Sir 3:2–6, 12–14
Col 3:12–21 or 3:12–17
Mt 2:13–15, 19–23

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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