



“Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward will
be great in heaven.”

MATTHEW 5:12a



The New Evangelization

MIGUEL DULICK

This season of the Church we call “**Ordinary Time**” is full of Jesus’ teaching about how to live our Christian lives. Today’s readings are especially rich. When Jesus takes his place as the New Moses to deliver his Sermon on the Mount, he begins, fittingly, with a new version of the commandments, but instead of “Thou shalt not,” they are blessings! And they are paradoxical; always a sign of the divine touch. The “poor in spirit” get the kingdom of heaven; mourners are blessed, for they shall be comforted.

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LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

How do Jesus’ teachings work in the “real world”?

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 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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Saturday January 31, 2026

4 PM St Joseph Mass
 Int: Parishioners
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Bartha & Rosa Baltz deceased family members

Sunday February 1, 2026

8:00 AM St John Mass
 Int: Bob & John Thielemier, d & Pat Parker, d
 10:30 AM St Paul Mass
 Int: Parishioners

Monday February 2, 2026

No Mass

Tuesday February 3, 2026

6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Emma, Floyd, Jim, Charles, Eric Blount, d

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

9:00 AM St Paul Mass
 Int: Arkie DeClerk, d

Thursday, February 5, 2026

12:00 PM St John Mass
 Int: Mary Weisenbach, d; Jeff & Paul Leister, d
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Bernard Baltz, d

Friday, February 6, 2026

9:00 AM St Paul Mass
 Int: Bille DeClerk, d

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Saturday February 7, 2026

4:00 PM St Joseph Mass
 Int: Parishioners
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass
 Int: Catherine Jansen Conway, d

Sunday February 8, 2026

8:00 AM St John Mass
 Int: Betty Steimel, d; Dan, Joe, Dave & Jennifer 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

February 7- Susan Meier February 8- Scott & Abby Tyler
 February 14- Nick DeClerk February 15- Jeff Evers
 February 21- Alex Baltz February 22- Matt & Jennifer Hibbard

Financial Report	
January 29, 2026	\$7,020.08
2026 year to date	\$46,618.65
Children's Collection	
St Joseph, December 2025	\$3,356.00
DOLR	\$8,149.00
Food Bank, December 2025	\$2,050.00



BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER

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



Church Cleaning Schedule Jan 31, 2026 - Angie DeClerk, Sonya Walker, Maria Dickson, Ashlyn Shipley. 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 February 7, 2026

Host Ministers: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Susan Meier, Paige Radcliff

Cups: Rose Hutsell, Trish Thielemier

Altar Servers: Peyton Radcliff, Abel & Riles Johnson

10:30 AM Sunday February 8, 2026

Host Ministers: Abby Tyler, Claire Garoutte

Cups: Rene' Tyler, Debbie Hibbard

Cups: Leroy & Jennifer Nichols

Altar Servers: Hayden Moore, Austin James, Aven Thielemier

6:00 PM Saturday February 14, 2026

Host Ministers: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Alex & Tiffany Baltz

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Altar Servers: Luke, Jacob & Blakely Jansen

10:30 AM Sunday February 15, 2026

Host Ministers: Brin Presley, Jill Neely

Cups: Cyndy Busick, Angie DeClerk

Cups: Michelle Olvey, Abby Tyler

Altar Servers: Mathias Duran, Cash Cox, Caroline Thielemier

Enrich your faith in, "Why We Believe" by Dr Pitre during Lent. If you have been asked or wondered about:

Where is Purgatory in the Bible?

Why do Catholics pray for the dead?

How did we get the Bible?

Why confess to a priest?

What is the historical evidence of Peter and the Papacy?

Why do Catholics worship Mary?

Join Fr Stephen in the Parish Life Center Sunday evenings during Lent, beginning February 22 from 6-7pm. Light hors d'oeuvres & childcare will be provided.

Homebound and Nursing Home Ministry

February: Cyndy Busick, Elaine Wallis, Brenda Liebhaber

Ushers February:

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

Sunday: Richard Blount, Doug Thielemier, Mark Reed

Any parishioners that need your 2025 year end contribution totals, please call the church office during business hours.

First Saturday devotion in honor of Our Blessed Mother, Feb 7th. Holy hour and confessions begin at 11 o'clock.

Next Weekend Feb 7, St . Paul School Annual Mardi Gras .

Everyone is welcome to join us.

Cajun meal- 6:30-7:45 pm

Bingo - 8:00 pm

Meal ticket: \$35

Bingo cards: \$5/each

Personal coolers welcome

Tickets for the meal can be purchased through the school office or call Mallory Steimel at 870-520-9369.

Please pray for the Arkie DeClerk Family. Arkie passed away January 19, 2026. May the Lord embrace her as she enters the gates to Heaven, and watch over her friends and family.

The crib and the cross are carved from the same wood — at Christmas we behold His birth, and in Lent we follow Him to His sacrifice, both born of the same love." Choir practice for the Easter Vigil April 4 will begin soon! Please contact Catherine Jarrett 870-810-7349 if you are interested. Practice will begin Feb 2nd.

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, 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, and Keith Broadway.

Good News!

February 1, 2026
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12–13 / 1 Corinthians 1:26–31 / Matthew 5:1–12a

MIGUEL DULICK

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Dear Padre

February 1, 2026

I am struggling with our new pastor. He has been in our parish for less than six months, and nothing seems to please him. Everything has to change, and the parishioners have no input. I thought the days of “pray, pay, and obey” were over.

The Code of Canon Law identifies the pastor as the shepherd of the parish. His duties require him to teach, sanctify, and govern the people entrusted to his care. However, canon law also envisions that the pastor will engage in pastoral care “with the assistance of lay members of Christ’s faithful” (CCL 519).

The intention of the law is to encourage the building up of a community using the “knowledge, prudence, and integrity” of every member (CCL 228, §2). Many issues, feelings, and even theologies make up the personalities of a parish. The one constant that needs to be present is the presumption of goodwill. (See Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2478). If that is missing, then conflict, hard feelings, and many misunderstandings will result.

Without taking sides, I suggest that everyone take a deep breath. Then each of you—the pastor included—ask yourself, “Have I attempted to interpret this person or situation favorably? Have I made any rash judgments?” If honest and prayerful reflection reveals less-than-good intentions, now is the time for an attitude change and to acknowledge that a new start is needed. ●

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)

Mass Intentions

January 31, 2026 – February 8, 2026

<p><u>St. John</u> Sun Feb 1: Bob & John Thielemier (d); Pat Parker (d) Thur Feb 5: Mary Weisenbach (d); Jeff & Paul Leister (d) Sun Feb 8: Betty Steimel (d); Dan Joe, Dave & Jennifer Wren (d)</p> <p><u>St. Paul</u> Sat Jan 31: Barth & Rosa Baltz Sun Feb 1: For the Parishioners Tues Feb 3: Emma, Floyd, Jim, Charles & Eric Blount (d) Wed Feb 4: Arkie DeClerk (d) Thur Feb 5: Bernard Baltz (d) Fri Feb 6: Billie DeClerk (d) Sat Feb 7: Catherine (Jansen) Conway (d) Sun Feb 8: For the Parishioners</p>

Ministry Schedule

	February 1	February 8	February 15	February 22
Eucharistic Ministers	Jenniet Galvan Deb Martin Patty House Brenda Liebhaber	Jenniet Galvan Deb Martin Patty House Brenda Liebhaber	Jessica Stout Kelly Alphin Pat Wren Linda Elmore	Jessica Stout Kelly Alphin Pat Wren Linda Elmore
Servers	Lucy Throesch Caroline Stout Jaxon Steimel	Perry Throesch Jaxon Kasinger Catarina Throesch	Wade Zitzelberger Holden Zitzelbeger Casyn Steimel	Madison Throesch Max Hoose Parker Liebhaber
Lectors	February: Bridgette Kasinger & Jessica Stout March: Christian Helms & Rebecca Steimel			
Ushers	February: Glen Hausman & Luke Zitzelberger March: Jeremy Stout & Stuart Blalock			
Money Counters	February: Betty Taylor, Chuck & Mary Barnes March: Deb Martin, Dwain & Cathy Hausman			

Weekly Financial Report

January 25 2025 Loose Cash \$0.00 Checks & Envelopes: 0.00

BLACK & INDIAN MISSIONS: This special collection is taken up in all parishes across Arkansas. The support the Diocese of Little Rock receives from this national collection helps support the [Diocesan Council for Black Catholics](#) and other ministries, events and formation to encourage the Christian life in culturally appropriate ways. This collection has supported evangelization programs in almost every diocese in the United States for more than 130 years. This collection will be taken up February 1.

SUPERBOWL SUNDAY: Superbowl party will be Sunday Feb 8th at our hall. The Men's Club will provide ribs and chicken, just bring a side or dessert. Kickoff is at 5:30 pm but come early to get your name on the boards (doors open at 4:30pm)! Family friendly and personal coolers welcome.

ST PAUL MARDI GRAS: St Paul's PTO Mardi Gras is going to be Dinner and Bingo this year. It will be held on Saturday Feb 7th at 6:30 pm at the Parish Life Center. Dinner is \$35, Bingo cards are \$5, and it will be adult only. Come join us for a fun-filled evening and support our St. Paul PTO!

THANK YOU: A big shout out to those responsible for clearing our sidewalks and parking area of all the snow and ice. You did a fabulous job. May God bless you for your kindness.

ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPER: All are invited to the annual soup (meatless) supper to begin the Lenten season. It will occur on Ash Wednesday, February 18th at the Parish Life Center from 5:30PM to 7:30PM. The menu includes vegetable soup, broccoli and cheese soup, potato soup, grilled cheese, bread, and drinks. Come after the 5:30PM Mass at St. John's, or come before the 7PM Word & Ash service at St. Paul. There will be no charge for this event, but donations to the annual Lenten Rice Bowl fund are welcome.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: Enrich your faith in, "Why We Believe" by Dr Pitre during Lent. Join Father Stephen in the Parish Life Center on Sunday evenings during Lent beginning Sunday, February 22nd from 6:00-7:00 pm. Light hors d'oeuvres and childcare will be provided. Save the dates for this enriching bible study!

END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT: Anyone needing their 2025 yearly contribution statement needs to contact Jane Smith.

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, Bob Wren, Eric Thielemier, Elizabeth Smith, 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, 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, and all those listed in our petition book. May God grant them healing.

St. Paul the Apostle Church

*Invites you to our annual soup
(meatless) supper*

Wednesday, February 18th

Parish Life Center

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Vegetable, Broccoli and Cheese, Potato soups, Grilled
Cheese, bread and drinks provided

Liturgy of the Word and distribution of ashes only

7:00 p.m.

No charge but donations to the annual Rice Bowl fund welcomed

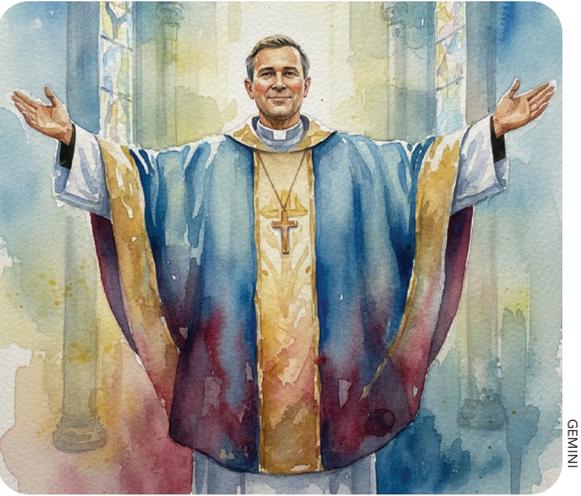
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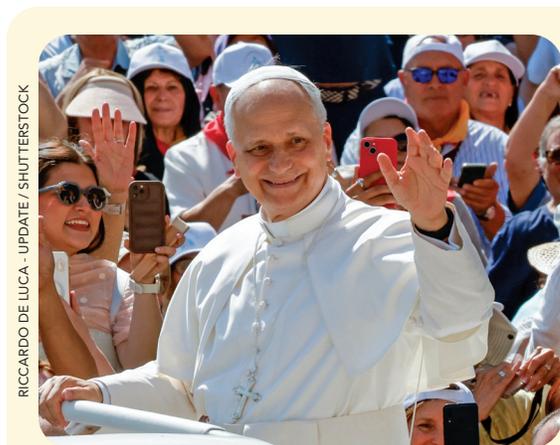
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GEMINI

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
February 2	February 3	February 4	February 5	February 6	February 7	February 8
<i>The Presentation of the Lord</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr</i>	<i>St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Mal 3:1–4	2 Sm 18:9–10, 14b, 24–25a, 30–19:3	2 Sm 24:2, 9–17	1 Kgs 2:1–4, 10–12	Sir 47:2–11	1 Kgs 3:4–13	Is 58:7–10
Heb 2:14–18	Mk 5:21–43	Mk 6:1–6	Mk 6:7–13	Mk 6:14–29	Mk 6:30–34	1 Cor 2:1–5
Lk 2:22–40 or 2:22–32						Mt 5:13–16



RICCARDO DE LUCA - UPDATE / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

The desire to work together for a common purpose reflects an essential reality: no one is Christian alone! We are part of a people, a body established by the Lord.... The Christian life is not lived in isolation.... It is lived with others, in a group and in community, because the risen Christ is present wherever disciples gather in his name.

ADDRESS, ROME, JUNE 6, 2025