



[Solomon said to the Lord,]
“Give your servant, therefore,
a listening heart to judge your
people and to distinguish
between good and evil.”

1 KINGS 3:9

What Image of the Kingdom Will You Serve Up?

ANN M. GARRIDO

Jesus' favorite thing to talk about was a mystery he called the kingdom of God, referred to in the Gospel of Matthew as the kingdom of heaven. He was not the first to speak of it. The prophets before him spoke often of God's dream for the world. They wanted all to know what it would look like when God reigns here on earth as God already reigns in the heavens. But Jesus added to that teaching by offering vivid new images of what God's reign is like. Matthew 13 is filled with such snapshots. The kingdom of heaven will be like a mustard seed, a pearl, a measure of leaven, a hidden treasure. It will be like a sower casting out seed, a wheat harvest, a net that catches many fish.

At the end of this litany, however, Jesus offers an image of what he expects of those who have received his teaching about the Kingdom. They are to be like “the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old” (Matthew 13:52). It sounds as if Jesus' disciples are to act like hosts of a banquet, setting the table with stories from across time to feed their guests with whatever words and images would best help them grasp the mystery of this kingdom. They are to continue Jesus' work of developing new ways to illumine a mystery that is in the end too great for words. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

What image of God's kingdom would you offer people of the twenty-first century?

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

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 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.

Mass Schedule

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Saturday July 25, 2026

4:00 pm St Joseph Mass

Int: Parishioners

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Bob & Lil Gogan, d

Sunday July 26, 2026

8:00 am St John Mass

Int: Rudy & Joseph Hausman,

d; Dick & Sarah Thielemier, d;

Madeleine Throesch, d

10:30 am St Paul Mass

Int: Parishioners

Monday July 27, 2026

No Mass

Tuesday July 28, 2026

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Alice Jansen, d

Wednesday July 29, 2026

12:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Chrsitina Smith, d

Thursday July 30, 2026

12:00 pm St John Mass

Int: Paul, Ruth & Tom Weisenbach, d; Edgar Throesch, d; Pat Parker, d

6:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Justin Baltz, d

Friday July 31, 2026

12:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Shirley Sorg, d

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Saturday August 1, 2026

5:00 pm St Paul Mass

Int: Johnson Family: Jim, Pauline, David & Patty

Sunday August 2, 2026

8:00 am St John Mass

Int: Betty Steimel, d; Peter Paul & Diane Thielemier family; Kathy Mitchell (healing)

10:30 am St Paul Mass

Int: Parishioners

1:00pm St Joseph Mass

Int: Parishioners

Sacristan Schedule

August 1- Joan Gross August 2- Scott & Abby Tyler

August 8- Susan Meier August 9- Jeff Evers

August 15- Nick DeClerk August 16- Josh & Jill Neely

Financial Report	
July 23, 2026	\$6,830.67
2026 year to date	\$245,624.14
Children's Collection	\$76.00
St Joseph April 2026	\$3,523.32
DOLR June 2026	\$1,124.00
Food Bank, June 2026	\$1,023.98



BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER

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



Church Cleaning Schedule August 1- Roberta Waymon, Bridgette Rose, Teresa Baltz, Abby Tyler.
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

5:00 PM Saturday August 1, 2026

Host Ministers: Susan Meier, Maggie Baltz

Cups: Trish Thielemier, Kelly Throesch

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Dru & Evelyn Steimel

10:30 AM Sunday August 2, 2026

Host Ministers: Cyndy Busick, Shelly James

Cups: Abby Tyler, Jennifer Hibbard

Cups: Debbie Hibbard, Terri Jansen

Altar Servers: Owen Smith, Aven Thielemier, Caroline Thielemier

6:00 PM Saturday August 8, 2026

Host Ministers: Alex & Tiffany Baltz

Cups: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Mitch & Teresa Baltz

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Aubrey & Cannon Hogan

10:30 AM Sunday August 9, 2026

Host Ministers: Claire Garoutte, Monica Loyd

Cups: Jill Neely, Jennifer Nichols

Cups: Michelle Olvey, Brin Presley

Altar Servers: Zoey Hibbard, Cash Cox, John Henry Garoutte

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

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

Discovering Our Dignity Women's Bible Study: LAST WEEK to sign up for Discovering Our Dignity Women's Bible Study. Come join our Sunday evening Women's Bible study beginning Sunday, August 23rd at 6:00 pm in the Parish Life Center. Please call Teresa 870-930-5700 or the church office by August 1st to order your book. Books are \$45.00 for 22 fall and winter sessions.

First Saturday devotion to our Blessed Mother scheduled August 1st. Holy hour and confessions begin at 11:00 am.



The Mass schedule for August 1st & 2nd will be changing due to the Taste of Faith being hosted by St Paul the Apostle. **Saturday Mass at St Paul will be at 5:00 pm. Sunday Mass at St Paul at 10:30 am and St Joseph Mass at 1:00 pm.**

A Weekend That will Change Your Life! Women's Casillo 3 day weekend. September 24-27. Contact Ed Moix ED.MOIX59@GMAIL.COM the retreat is held at St John's Center Little Rock. Deepen your Faith. Clarify your baptismal mission. Sustain your catholic journey and encounter Christ.

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!

July 26, 2026
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

1 Kings 3:5, 7–12 / Romans 8:28–30 / Matthew 13:44–52 or 13:44–46

ANN M. GARRIDO

Jesus’ favorite thing to talk about was a mystery he called the kingdom of God, referred to in the Gospel of Matthew as the kingdom of heaven. He was not the first to speak of it. The prophets before him spoke often of God’s dream for the world. They wanted all to know what it would look like when God reigns here on earth as God already reigns in the heavens. But Jesus added to that teaching by offering vivid new images of what God’s reign is like. Matthew 13 is filled with such snapshots. The kingdom of heaven will be like a mustard seed, a pearl, a measure of leaven, a hidden treasure. It will be like a sower casting out seed, a wheat harvest, a net that catches many fish.

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Dear Padre

July 26, 2026

I’m in the OCIA program. My wife and I were married civilly. She goes to a non-denominational church but is not baptized. Someone said we would have to get our marriage “convalidated.” Why? And what does that mean?

Convalidation is a legal term, but it can also be understood as good pastoral practice and even more as a wise spiritual choice. Basically, from a legal point of reference, your marriage took place outside of the canonical structure of the Church. It needs to be “regularized” and “documented” for you to move forward. Because your wife is not baptized, it cannot be a sacramental marriage, which requires baptism, but it can be made valid and recorded in official Church documentation. Such documentation is helpful, particularly if you have children and intend to raise them as Catholic. Also, if your wife ever decides to become a baptized Catholic, your marriage would automatically become a sacramental marriage when she is baptized. Nothing more is required of you. All in all, it is a good decision and a positive step in your spiritual journey. ●

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

July 26, 2026 – August 2, 2026

St. John
Sun July 26: Rudy & Joseph Hausman (d); Dick & Sarah Thielemier (d); Madeleine Throesch (d)
Thur July 30: Paul, Ruth & Tom Weisenbach (d); Edgar Throesch (d); Pat Parker (d)
Sun Aug 2: Betty Steimel (d); Peter Paul & Diane Thielemier family; Kathy Mitchell (healing)

St. Paul
Sat July 25: Bob & Lil Gogan (d)
Sun July 26: Parishioners
Tues July 28: Alice Jansen (d)
Wed July 29: Christina Smith (d)
Thur July 30: Justin Baltz (d)
Fri July 31: Shirley Sorg(d)
Sat Aug 1: Johnson family: Jim, Pauline, David, & Patty
Sun Aug 2: Parishioners

Ministry Schedule

	July 26	August 2	August 9	August16
Eucharistic Ministers	Jenniet Galvan Deb Martin Patty Hoose Brenda Liebhaber	Jessica Stout Kelly Alphin Pat Wren Rebecca Steimel	Jessica Stout Kelly Alphin Pat Wren Rebecca Steimel	Cathy Hausman Tina Sharp Jane Smith Stella Steimel
Servers	Wade Zitzelberger Holden Zitzelberger Caroline Stout	Perry Throesch Madeleine Throesch Catarina Throesch	Henry Taylor Isaac Throesch Casyn Steimel	Jaxon Kasinger Max Hoose Parker Liebhaber
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

July 19, 2026 Loose Cash \$360.00 Checks & Envelopes: \$1370.00 Votive candles: \$92.00
BRAD Food Bank: \$346.00 Peter’s Pence: \$40.00 Hall Rental: \$100.00

PARISH DIRCTORY: Our new Parish Directories are in. You can pick them up on Sundays after Mass or Thursday morning during office hours.

SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS AND ICE MACHINE: Please be aware that surveillance cameras have been placed around the church grounds to help keep the properties safe and secure. The ice machine was never meant for public use. We have discovered that non-parishioners are using our ice and have access to our storage room. Until the Parish Council has a meeting and decides what needs done, the basement door will remain locked.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: We will be having a special meeting concerning the 100th Anniversary Celebration on Tuesday August 4th beginning at 7:00PM. All committee members are invited to attend. If anyone has any suggestions, please share with a parish council member.

TASTE OF FAITH DONATION: There will be a special 2nd collection on July 25th and 26th to offset the cost of hosting this years Taste of Faith event at St. Paul. If you are unable to attend the event and would like to make a donation, please consider this collection.

VBS: VBS will be here before you know it. Dates for the event are July 26th-29th at St. Paul Parish Life Center. Get signed up for the fun! If you would like to volunteer, reach out Jill Neely 501-658-6818

BIBLE STUDY: Discovering our Dignity Women’s Bible Study. Come join our Sunday evening study beginning Sunday, August 23rd at 6:00PM in the St. Paul Pairsh Life Center. Please call Teresa Baltz at 870-930-5700 or the St. Paul church office by August 1st to order your book. Books are \$45.00.

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.

EUCHARIST 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, Father James Schaefer, Marie Peters, Dickie & Doris Flanigan, Samuel Thompson, Lisa (Baltz) Riggs, River Wood, Diane Kimble Ramsey, Caren Kiefer, Dennis Weisenbach, Father Matthew Flatly (diocese of Jefferson City), Bonny Schmidt, Pam Murphy, Bridgette Kasinger, Danny McCurdy, Paula Johnson, David Cissel, Owen Rowe, Jake Kasinger, Sharon Thielemier (Patrick), Betty Baltz, Karen O’Gara, and all those listed in our petition book. May God grant them healing.

Dear Padre,

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It needs to be "regularized" and "documented" for you to move forward. Because your wife is not baptized, it cannot be a sacramental marriage, which requires baptism, but it can be made valid and recorded in official Church documentation. Such documentation is helpful, particularly if you have children and intend to raise them as Catholic. Also, if your wife ever decides to become a baptized Catholic, your marriage would automatically become a sacramental marriage when she is baptized. Nothing more is required of you. All in all, it is a good decision and a positive step in your spiritual journey. ●



BOGDAN SONJACHNYI / SHUTTERSTOCK

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

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

God speaks to us.... [T]he first attitude to cultivate is listening, so that the divine Word may penetrate our minds and our hearts; at the same time, we are required to speak with God, not to communicate to him what he already knows, but to reveal ourselves to ourselves. Hence the need for prayer, in which we are called to live and to cultivate friendship with the Lord.

GENERAL AUDIENCE,
ROME, JANUARY 14,
2026

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HTWE / SHUTTERSTOCK

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

July 27
Weekday
Jer 13:1–11
Mt 13:31–35

Tuesday

July 28
Weekday
Jer 14:17–22
Mt 13:36–43

Wednesday

July 29
Sts. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus
Jer 15:10, 16–21
Jn 11:19–27 or
Lk 10:38–42

Thursday

July 30
Weekday
Jer 18:1–6
Mt 13:47–53

Friday

July 31
St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
Jer 26:1–9
Mt 13:54–58

Saturday

August 1
St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Jer 26:11–16, 24
Mt 14:1–12

Sunday

August 2
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 55:1–3
Rom 8:35, 37–39
Mt 14:13–21