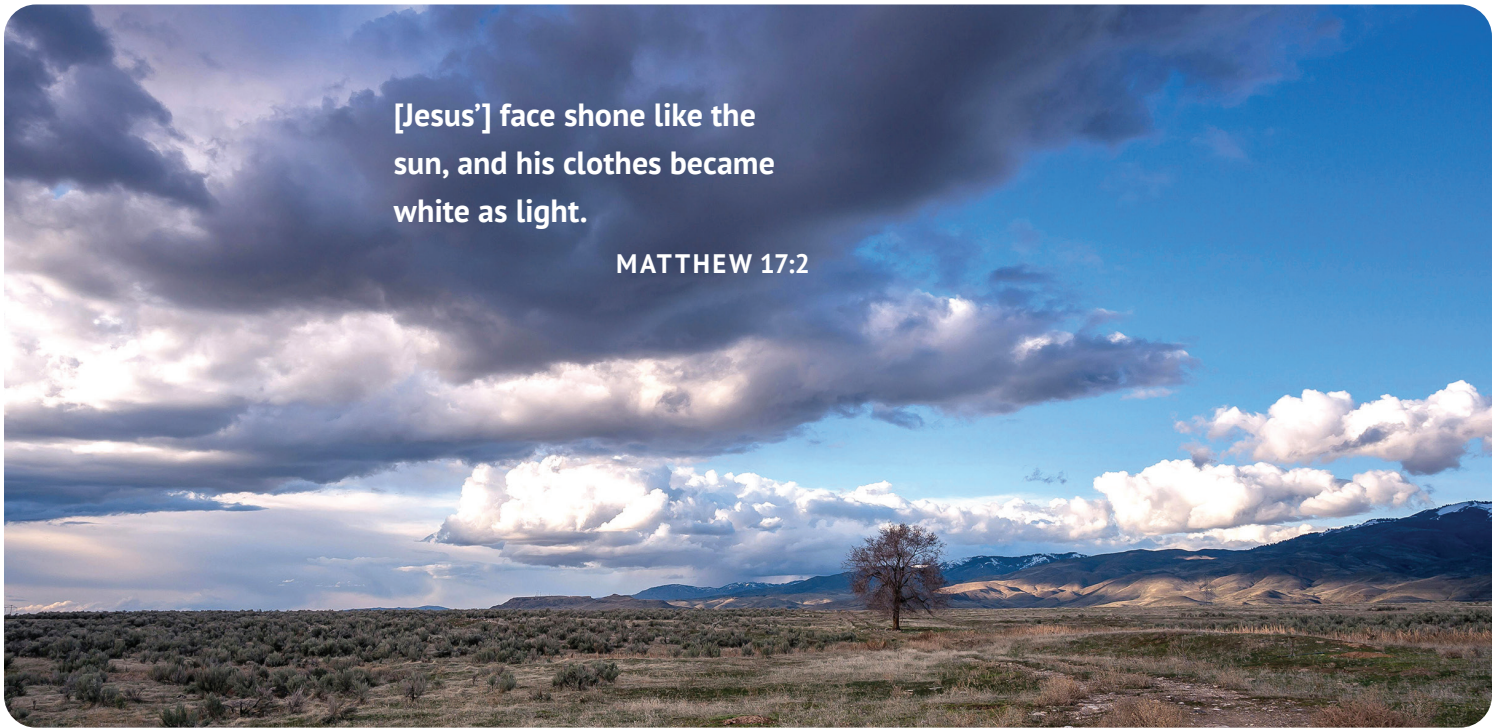




[Jesus'] face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

MATTHEW 17:2



Where Heaven and Earth Meet

ANN M. GARRIDO

Have you ever noticed that mountains and clouds seem to “go together”? When I was a child, I thought it was because the mountains’ height pierced the sky. Turns out, it’s a bit more complicated. Mountains “create” their own clouds. When moving air comes across a mountain front, it forces the warm air to rise to cooler zones and water droplets in the air to condense. The phenomenon is so common that these clouds have their own name: lenticular. They are known for being bright—even colorful—with rays of light peeking out from behind.

It’s no wonder why, throughout history, people have sought to ascend mountains as part of their spiritual journey. It was a way to get closer to the “heavens”—to those radiant clouds. Recall the prophet Elijah, who climbs Mount Sinai seeking a face-to-face encounter with God. Or Moses, who, with three of his closest friends, ascends Mount Sinai to meet God in a radiant cloud that hovers over the top of the peak.

So, it’s also no wonder why Jesus, with three of *his* closest friends, might also climb a mountain and meet Elijah and Moses there. No wonder why that mountain would be covered in a bright cloud that thunders with God’s voice, and why, in that moment, Scripture describes heaven and earth as mysteriously yet visibly mingling in the person of the transfigured Jesus.

The story of the transfiguration reminds us that just like mountains and clouds were meant for one another, heaven and earth were meant for one another. Jesus stands at the point where the two meet. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

What places or moments in my life have made me feel close to heaven?

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: Allison Swann 870-219-9824
 Pastoral Council Vice Chairperson:
 Adult Inquiry Class, OCIA: Jamey Sullinger-870-758-0246
 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

<p><u>Second Sunday of Lent Saturday February 28, 2026</u> 4:00 PM St Joseph Int: Parishioners 6:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Marie Jansen Conway, d</p>	<p><u>Thursday, March 5, 2026</u> 12:00 PM St John Mass Int: Aleene Warden, d; Dr Albert Baltz, d 6:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Keith Sutton, d</p>
<p><u>Sunday March 1, 2026</u> 8:00 AM St John Mass Int: Tom & Mary Arnold, d; L/D members of Frank & Josephine Thielemier Family 10:30 AM St Paul Mass Int: Parishioners</p>	<p><u>Friday March 6, 2026</u> 9:00 AM St Paul Mass Int: Ronnie Rose, d 12:45 PM St Paul Stations of the Cross 5:30 PM St John stations of the Cross</p>
<p><u>Monday March 2, 2026</u> No Mass</p>	<p><u>Third Sunday of Lent Saturday March 7, 2026</u> 4:00 PM St Joseph Mass Int: Parishioners 6:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Lambert Jansen, d</p>
<p><u>Tuesday March 3, 2026</u> 6:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Louis Koch, d</p>	<p><u>Sunday March 8, 2026</u> 8:00 AM St John Mass Int: JC & Janet Peters, d; deceased members of Benny & Anna Thielemier family 10:30 AM St Paul Mass Int: Parishioners</p>
<p><u>Wednesday March 4, 2026</u> 9:00 AM St Paul Mass Int: Bob & Lil Gogan, d</p>	



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
 March 7- Nick DeClerk March 8- Scott & Kim Hills
 March 14- Alex Baltz March 15- Jeff Evers
 March 21- Susan Meier March 22- Matt & Jennifer Hibbard

Financial Report	
February 26, 2026	\$7,540.89
2026 year to date	\$63,014.34
Children's Collection	\$143.00
St Joseph, January 2026	\$2,905.00
DOLR	\$1,389.00
Food Bank, February 2026	\$1,028.41



BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER

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



Church Cleaning Schedule March 7- Susan Meier, Monica Loyd, Dayna Difani, JoAnn Guterman. **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 March 7, 2026

Host Ministers: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Mitch & Teresa Baltz

Cups: Susan Meier, Kelly Throesch

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Aubrey Hogan, Valentina Hguyen

10:30 AM Sunday March 8, 2026

Host Ministers: Brin Presley, Michelle Olvey

Cups: Leroy & Jennifer Nichols

Cups: Scott & Kim Hills

Altar Servers: Hayden Moore, Dru & Evelyn Steimel

6:00 PM Saturday March 14, 2026

Host Ministers: Alex & Tiffany Baltz

Cups: Trish Thielemier, Rose Hutsell

Cups: Tom & Chris Baltz

Altar Servers: Luke, Jacob, Blakely Jansen

10:30 AM Sunday March 15, 2026

Host Ministers: Monica Loyd, Shelly James

Cups: Rene' Tyler, Debbie Hibbard

Cups: Angie DeClerk, Anna Higginbotham

Altar Servers: Leo Clark, Owen Smith, Etta Clark

6:00 PM Saturday March 21, 2026

Host Ministers: Dc Tate, Maggie Baltz

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Cups: Susan Meier, Paige Radcliff

Altar Servers: Peyton, Reese Radcliff, Abel Johnson

10:30 AM Sunday March 22, 2026

Host Ministers: Dc Tate, Claire Garoutte

Cups: Kim Hills, Terri Jansen

Cups: Abby Tyler, Jennifer Hibbard

Altar Servers: Zoey Hibbard, Keegan Presley, Caroline Thielemier

Ushers March:

Saturday: Roberta Waymon, Joey Radcliff

Sunday: Pink Baltz, Todd Berry, Jeff Evers, Gordon Thielemier

**** Usher meeting @ KC Hall, March 1 at 5pm**. All current & any parishioners interested in helping are encouraged to attend.**

First Saturday Devotion in honor of Our Blessed Mother, March 7. Holy hour & confessions at 11AM.

Enrich your faith in, "Why We Believe" by Dr Pitre during Lent. Join Fr Stephen in the Parish Life Center this Sunday at 6 PM. How did we get the Bible? From where did the Bible come? Who decided which books got in & which didn't? Light hors d'oeuvres & childcare will be provided.

All Stations begin at 5:30 PM. KC Fish Fry available after Stations on **select dates:**

St John Station of the Cross: March 6, March 13th.(**Fish Fry**)

St Paul Stations of the Cross: March 20th, March 27th.(**Fish Fry**).

Nursing Home and Homebound Ministry March:

Debbie Hibbard, Judith Meier, Zachary Singleton

The Golden Agers Dinner & Bible Trivia Night:

Saturday , March 7th following the 6 PM Mass at the Parish Life Center.

You're welcome to come dressed as your favorite person from the Bible.

For more information please contact Jeanette Thielemier 870-378-5557 or Rose Throesch at 870-378-6282.

Calling all children and teens (3rd grade and up)! Join the Children's Easter Choir for Easter Sunday. Practice will begin Wednesday March 3 at 6:00 PM in the church. Everyone is welcome, come sing and celebrate the joy of Easter with us!

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!

March 1, 2026
 Second Sunday of Lent (A)

Genesis 12:1–4a / 2 Timothy 1:8b–10 / Matthew 17:1–9

ANN M. GARRIDO

Have you ever noticed that mountains and clouds seem to “go together”? When I was a child, I thought it was because the mountains’ height pierced the sky. Turns out, it’s a bit more complicated. Mountains “create” their own clouds. When moving air comes across a mountain front, it forces the warm air to rise to cooler zones and water droplets in the air to condense. The phenomenon is so common that these clouds have their own name: lenticular. They are known for being bright—even colorful—with rays of light peeking out from behind.

It’s no wonder why, throughout history, people have sought to ascend mountains as part of their spiritual journey. It was a way to get closer to the “heavens”—to those radiant clouds. Recall the prophet Elijah, who climbs Mount Sinai seeking a face-to-face encounter with God. Or Moses, who, with three of his closest friends, ascends Mount Sinai to meet God in a radiant cloud that hovers over the top of the peak.

So, it’s also no wonder why Jesus, with three of his closest friends, might also climb a mountain and meet Elijah and Moses there. No wonder why that mountain would be covered in a bright cloud that thunders with God’s voice, and why, in that moment, Scripture describes heaven and earth as mysteriously yet visibly mingling in the person of the transfigured Jesus.

The story of the transfiguration reminds us that just like mountains and clouds were meant for one another, heaven and earth were meant for one another. Jesus stands at the point where the two meet. ●

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Dear Padre

March 1, 2026

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I’d like to caution you about two assumptions. The first is about judging people who leave Mass early. We can’t know what is in a person’s heart. Some people work on Sundays or have other unavoidable commitments that require them to leave at a certain time.

The second assumption is that socializing before and after a parish Mass is disrespectful. The celebratory and welcoming culture of a Christian community that has gathered together to celebrate the Eucharist gives glory and praise to God. It is not disrespectful of the Eucharist, but rather a powerful witness to the unity, the community, and the faith of the people of God who gather with their Lord and Savior.

There are Eucharistic gatherings that encourage silence, such as the Latin Mass you have experienced as well as Eucharistic Adoration and Forty Hours Devotion. We need both—silence as we worship together and joyful interaction with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Both give glory to God.

All that being said, to those who enjoy socializing or who must leave the Mass before the final note of the final hymn: do be considerate of those praying near you. They might be praying for you! ●

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

March 1, 2026 – March 8, 2026

St. John

March 1: Tom & Mary Arnold (d); Living & deceased of Frank & Josephine Thielemier family
 Thur Mar 5: Aleene Warden (d); Dr. Albert Baltz (d)
 March 8: JC & Janet Peters (d); Deceased members of the Benny & Anna Thielemier family

St. Paul

Sat Feb 28: Marie Jansen Conway (d)
 Sun Mar 1: For the Parishioners
 Tues Mar 3: Louis Koch (d)
 Wed Mar 4: Bob & Lil Gogan (d)
 Thur Mar 5: Keith Sutton (d)
 Fri Mar 6: Ronnie Rose (d)
 Sat Mar 7: Lambert Jansen (d)
 Sun Mar 8: For the Parishioners

FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS SCHEDULE:

All Stations begin at 5:30PM. KC Fish Fry available after Stations on select dates.

St. John Stations of the Cross: Mar. 6th, Mar. 13th (Fish Fry)

St. Paul Stations of the Cross: Mar. 20th, Mar. 27th (Fish Fry)

GOLDEN AGERS PARTY: Saturday, March 7th following the 6:00PM Mass. We will also have Bible Trivia. You are welcome to come dressed as your favorite Bible character. For more information or transportation contact Jeanette Thielemier or Rose Throesch.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES: Collection will be taken up Sunday March 15th. This special collection is taken up across Arkansas. Give to this effort to help CRS provide emergency relief, human development and peace initiatives in 99 countries around the world, where nearly half the population lives on less than \$2 a day. For more information, contact Kelly Wewers, director of stewardship and development, at (501) 664-0340, ext. 391.

BRAD FOOD BANK: Next Sunday March 8th the second collection will be taken up for our area food bank.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: How did we get the Bible? From where did the Bible come? Who decided which books got in and which didn't? Join Father Stephen in the Parish Life Center on Sunday evenings during Lent from 6:00-7:00 pm. Light hors D'oeuvres and childcare will be provided. Save the dates for this enriching bible study!

EUCCHARIST 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, Diane Kimble Ramsey, Caren Kiefer, Jerry Lindsey, 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.

Ministry Schedule

	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22
Eucharistic Ministers	Cathy Hausman Tina Sharp Jane Smith Rebecca Steimel	Cathy Hausman Tina Sharp Jane Smith Rebecca Steimel	Stella Steimel Dwayne Capps Angie Capps Becky Brown	Stella Steimel Dwayne Capps Angie Capps Becky Brown
Servers	Isaac Throesch Catarina Throesch Henry Taylor	Lucy Throesch Caroline Stout Jaxon Steimel	Wade Liebhaber Holden Liebhaber Casyn Steimel	Max Hoose Perry Throesch Jaxon Kasinger
Lectors	March: Christian Helms & Rebecca Steimel April: Sonny Throesch & Elaine Wallis			
Ushers	March: Jeremy Stout & Stuart Blalock April: Chuck Barnes & Danny Steimel			
Money Counters	March: Deb Martin, Dwain & Cathy Hausman April: Mike & Connie Kasinger, Crystal Blalock			

Weekly Financial Report

2026 Loose Cash \$291.00 Checks & Envelopes: \$2655.00
 Ash Wednesday \$40.00

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PROFIBSANT / CATHOPIC

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
MARCH 2	MARCH 3	MARCH 4	MARCH 5	MARCH 6	MARCH 7	MARCH 8
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>
Dn 9:4b–10 Lk 6:36–38	Is 1:10, 16–20 Mt 23:1–12	Jer 18:18–20 Mt 20:17–28	Jer 17:5–10 Lk 16:19–31	Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a Mt 21:33–43, 45–46	Mi 7:14–15, 18–20 Lk 15:1–3, 11–32	Ex 17:3–7 Rom 5:1–2, 5–8 Jn 4:5–42 or 4:5–15, 19b–26, 39a, 40–42

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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



RICCARDO DE LUCA - UPDATE / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

We must also cry out for peace in the world. Let us all say, "We want peace in the world!"

Let us pray for peace. Let us pray for peace and be witnesses of the peace and reconciliation of Jesus Christ, the light that we are all seeking for today's world.

GREETING TO YOUNG PEOPLE, ROME, JULY 29, 2025