



“Hosanna to the Son of David;
blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest.”

MATTHEW 21:9

From Jubilation to Desolation

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

The adoring crowds, chanting “Hosanna to the Son of David” (Matthew 21:9), capture our attention on this Palm Sunday. We hear the crowds, and we rejoice with them. Sometimes, we forget that not everyone in the crowd is joyful. Some are challenged; some are threatened. For them, Jesus is not Good News; he is not the long-awaited one—he is something entirely different, and he must be silenced.

Our Sunday celebration begins with jubilant crowds and ends with a most cruel death. Those who were once joyful are now silent and dispersed. It appears that the authorities have once again triumphed. Hope is dashed. The promise remains unfulfilled.

Spiritually sit with desolation in the week that comes. Do not jump ahead to the triumphant end of the story. It is true that we are an Easter people, but we must also pay attention to the details of how evil often attempts to silence the good. It is important, as people of faith, to remind ourselves that even when all things seem to be lost, the Father has the last word. His will is accomplished. He is the Creator and the author of the story. We should always prepare ourselves to be surprised. To embrace light instead of darkness. And, even when there is death all around us, to know that there will be life—life in abundance for all. ●

Reflect

How am I at keeping in mind the resurrection when my world feels like Good Friday?

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: 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: 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>Palm Sunday Saturday</u> <u>March 28, 2026</u> 4:00 Pm St Joseph Mass Int: Parishioner 6:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Dr Ralph Ungerank, d</p> <p><u>Sunday March 29, 2026</u> 8:00 AM St John Mass Int: Romilda Hurn, d; Lee Taylor, d 10:30 AM St Paul Mass Int: Parishioners</p> <p><u>Monday March 30, 2026</u> No Mass</p> <p><u>Tuesday March 31, 2026</u> 6:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Dr Albert Baltz, d</p>	<p><u>Wednesday April 1, 2026</u> 9:00 AM St Paul Mass Int: Ferd, Anna Sorg & family members 2:30 PM St Paul Stations of the Cross</p> <p><u>Holy Thursday April 2, 2026</u> 7:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Keith Sutton, d</p> <p><u>Good Friday April 3, 2026</u> 3:00 PM St John Mass 7:00 PM St Paul Mass</p> <p><u>Easter Vigil April 4, 2026</u> 8:00 PM St Paul Mass Int: Henry Dust, d</p> <p><u>Easter Sunday April 5, 2026</u> 8:00 AM St John Mass Int: Jonathan Cagle, d; Aggie Barnes Summers, d 10:30 AM St Paul Mass Int: Ronnie Rose, d</p>
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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
 April 2- Susan Meier April 3- Nick DeClerk
 April 4- Alex Baltz April 4- Jeff Evers
 April 11- Joan Gross April 12- Scott & Abby Tyler
 April 18- Nick DeClerk April 19 - Josh & Jill Neely

Financial Report	
March 26, 2026	\$10,930.02
2026 year to date	\$91,370.48
Children's Collection	\$194.00
St Joseph, February 2026	\$2,784.00
DOLR	\$3,863.81
Food Bank, February 2026	\$1,106.06



BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER



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

Church Cleaning Schedule April 4- 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

7:00 PM Holy Thursday April 2, 2026

Host Ministers: Alex Baltz, Tom Baltz

Cups: Paul Yemma, Abby Tyler

Cups: Trish Thielemier, Claire Garoutte

Altar Servers: Leo Clark, Cash Cox, Etta Clark

7:00 PM Good Friday April 3, 2026

Host Minister: Tiffany Baltz, Chris Baltz

Altar servers: Aubrey Hogan, Dru & Evelyn Steimel

6:00 PM Saturday April 4, 2026

Host Ministers: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Alex & Tiffany Baltz

Cups: Mitch & Teresa Baltz

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Luke, Jacob, & Blakely Jansen

10:30 AM Sunday April 5, 2026

Host Ministers: Claire Garoutte, Terri Jansen

Cups: Leroy & Jennifer Nichols

Cups: Shelly James, Rene' Tyler

Altar Servers: Mary Morgan & Kipton Jansen, Austin James, Keegan Presley

6:00 PM Saturday April 11, 2026

Host Ministers: Mitch & Teresa Baltz

Cups: Pauletta Walker, Rose Hutsell

Cups: Kelly Throesch, Trish Thielemier

Altar Servers: Luke, Jacob & Blakely Jansen

10:30 AM Sunday April 12, 2026

Host Ministers: Abby Tyler, Jennifer Hibbard

Cups: Debbie Hibbard, Monica Loyd

Cups: Veronica Rose, Jill Neely

Altar Servers: Hayden Moore, Owen Smith, Caroline Thielemier

Homebound and Nursing Home Ministry for April:

Veronica Rose, Belinda Ward, and Judith Meier

April Ushers:

Saturday: Benny Baltz, Nick DeClerk

Sunday: Joe Difani, Mike Higginbotham, Joe T Carroll, Josh Neely, Brayden Tille

Holy Thursday Collection for Seminarians; every dollar matters. Every gift is an expression of faith.

Enrich your faith in, "Why We Believe" by Dr Pitre during Lent. Purgatory and Prayers for the Dead. Where is purgatory in the Bible? Why do Catholics pray for the dead?

Join us in the Parish Life Center Sunday evening, March 29th for our continuing Lenten study at 6 PM. Light hors D'oeuvres and childcare will be provided.

Save the dates:

Annual Knights of Columbus Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:30 Mass Easter morning. The hunt will be on the lawn in front of Parish Life Center.

Rainforest Falls VBS: July 26-29

If any parishioner would like to purchase a Lily for the Easter holiday in memory or honor of a loved one, please contact the church office to place your order. The cost is \$25 per lily.

Ladies, let the Knights of Columbus and our youth group keep you out of the kitchen this Easter! They will be providing baby back ribs or pork butts for your dinner table. Baby back ribs \$20, pork butts \$35. Contact Matt Fair 501-412-3324 or Jeremy Stout 870-810-2356. Order until April 2nd. Pick up at KC Hall Good Friday 4/3 from 3-7pm or Saturday 4/4 8-10 am .

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 Flanagan 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, Diane Kimble Ramsey, and Keith Broadway.

Good News!

March 29, 2026
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (A)

Matthew 21:1–11 / Isaiah 50:4–7 / Philippians 2:6–11 / Matthew 26:14—27:66 or 27:11–54

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

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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

March 29, 2026

How do the three sacred oils differ, and how do I dispose of them properly as a sacristan?

Jesus Christ was anointed priest, prophet, and king. *Christ* means “Anointed One.” The sacred oils assist the members of the Church, who share in Christ’s priestly, prophetic, and royal mission. Catechumens are anointed with the oil of catechumens for God’s help to resist evil, reject sin, and adhere to a lifelong profession of faith as they prepare for baptism. The infirm and elderly are anointed with the oil of the sick to fight against the physical and spiritual debilitating effects of illness through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. Chrism, the most important of the three, can only be consecrated by a bishop. It is used for baptism (along with the oil of catechumens), confirmation, the ordination of a priest or bishop, and the dedication of a church and altar.

A repository for the oils—often marked *Olea Sanctae* (“Holy Oils”)—is called an *ambry*. It is usually in a prominent church location near the baptismal font. Each year, when the oils are replaced, a priest, sacristan, or other person may absorb the old oil with cotton and burn it in a thurible or as part of the fire that begins the Easter Vigil. With special care, old oil can also be added to a large burning candle, like the sanctuary lamp. Reverence and safety are proper for whatever method of disposal is used. ●

Fr. Byron J. Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

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Mass Intentions

March 29, 2026 – April 5, 2026

<p><u>St. John</u> March 29: Romilda Hurn (d); Lee Taylor (d) Thur Apr 2: HOLY THURSDAY; NO MASS Fri April 3, 3:00PM: Good Friday Liturgy April 5: Jonathan Cagle (d); Aggie (Barnes) Summers (d)</p> <p><u>St. Paul</u> Sat Mar 28: Dr. Ralph Ungerank (d) Sun Mar 29: For the Parishioners Tues Mar 31: Dr. Albert Baltz (d) Wed Apr 1: Ferd and Anna Sorg & family members (d) Thur Apr 2: Keith Sutton (d) Fri Apr 3: Good Friday Liturgy Sat Apr 4: Henry Dust (d) Sun Apr 5: Ronnie Rose (d)</p>
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Ministry Schedule

	March 29	April 5	April 12	April 19
Eucharistic Ministers	Lori Steimel Joe Steimel Vernon Hausman Candace Steimel	Lori Steimel Joe Steimel Vernon Hausman Candace Steimel	Jim Bergman Lori Bergman Pam Durbin Mike Taylor	Jim Bergman Lori Bergman Pam Durbin Mike Taylor
Servers	Parker Liebhaber Haley Stout Caroline Stout	Perry Throesch Isaac Throesch Casyn Steimel	Jaxon Kasinger, Max Hoose Parker Liebhaber	Wade Zitzelberger Holden Zitzelberger Madison Throesch
Lectors	April: Sonny Throesch & Elaine Wallis May: Lori Steimerl & Maria Taylor			
Ushers	April: Chuck Barnes & Danny Steimel May: Andrew Steimel & Steve Leibhaber			
Money Counters	April: Mike & Connie Kasinger, Crystal Blalock May: Jessica Stout, Joe & Lori Steimel			

Weekly Financial Report

March 22 2026 Loose Cash \$261.00 Checks & Envelopes: \$1971.00

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE:

HOLY THURSDAY: 7:00PM St. Paul
GOOD FRIDAY: 3:00PM – St. John 7:00PM – St. Paul
HOLY SATURDAY: 8:00PM – St. Paul
EASTER SUNDAY: 8:00AM – St. John 10:30AM – St. Paul 1:00PM – St. Joseph

GOOD FRIDAY SERVERS: Henry Taylor, Madeleine Throesch, & Catarina Throesch

VICTOR THROESCH MEMORIAL EASTER EGG HUNT: We will once again be having our annual Easter egg hunt following Easter Sunday Mass, April 5th immediately following 8:00AM Mass. Don't forget to bring your Easter basket.

EASTER LILY MEMORIALS: If anyone would like to buy an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one, drop an envelope with the names marked on them, or see Tina or Jane.

UPCOMING ORDINATION GIFT: Deacon Christopher Elser will be ordained to the Priesthood on May 30, 2026. We would like for our parish to give him an ordination gift. If anyone would like to donate for this gift, please see Father or Jane. As the date gets closer, we will have a card for everyone to sign. Please turn in your donation by the end of April.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: Purgatory and Prayers for the Dead. Where is purgatory in the Bible? Why do Catholics pray for the dead? Join us in the Parish Life Center on Sunday evening, March 29th for our last Lenten study from 6:00-7:00 pm. Light hors D'oeuvres and childcare will be provided.

KC SMOKED PORK FOR EASTER: Baby Back Ribs \$20.00, Boston Butt \$35.00. Pick up Good Friday 3:00PM-7:00PM and Saturday 8:00AM_10:00AM at KC Hall. Last day to order will be March 31st. Contact Matt Fair 501-412-3324 or Jeremy Stout 870-810-2356.

PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE: Ladies of Grace will have a bake sale on Palm Sunday to help fund their projects for the year. The online auction will run on their Facebook page March 23rd - 27th. And there will also be goodies for sale after 8am Palm Sunday Mass March 29th. Please see Jessica Stout if you have something to sell in the online auction.

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, Father James Schaefer, Diane Kimble Ramsey, Caren Kiefer, Jerry Lindsey, Eric Thielemier, Hattie Martin, Dennis Weisenbach, 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, Earnie Durbin, and all those listed in our petition book. May God grant them healing.

CATECHEUMS AND CANDIDATES JOINING OUR CHURCH HOLY SATURDAY

HOPE BROADWAY- daughter of Scott Broadway, is excited to be joining the Church and building a closer relationship with God. Her dad has helped her throughout her journey and understanding of the Catholic faith. She is so ready to keep her relationship with God growing and pursuing a life faithful to Him. She enjoys playing softball, spending time with family and loves her cat, Theo.

LAURA THROESCH-married to Joseph Throesch and has two “rambunctious” little boys. They live in Engelberg and normally attend St. John’s but have enjoyed attending St. Paul’s the last few months. Laura takes care of the elderly, her boys, and keeps Joseph busy. She is so excited about becoming Catholic and being active in the Church.

JORDAN HAUSMANN - married to Brody Hausman and they have a son, Rhode. She is a registered nurse and is looking forward to becoming a member of the Catholic Church.

LEIGH ANN SCHMIDT- married to Lance Schmidt and has two daughters, Anna and Olivia who is married to Gabe. They have a son, Nash Henderson. Leigh Ann is a registered nurse. She loves spending time with family, friends, traveling, the Razorbacks, being outdoors and reading. She has a Methodist background and is excited for her Catholic journey.

BRAD ASHCRAFT – married to Leanna Hausman Ashcraft. He grew up in Pocahontas but now lives in Portia. He has two daughters, a stepson, a stepdaughter and two grandchildren. He works for the USDA Farm Service Agency.

MICHAEL D. HOBGOOD- 71 years old, retired U.S. Air Force and lives in Williford. He was raised Methodist and left the church at 18 years old. Became a drunk but got sober in Alcoholics Anonymous at age 31, which is when he returned to God. Has been searching since to fill a void he could always sense. After 40 years, the Holy Spirit led him to the Catholic Church.

SAMANTHA JOHNSON- lives in Smithville. She has a 2-year-old son, Jeremiah. She enjoys fiber arts, gardening, baking, and tending to her birds and rabbits. She thinks she is silly and loves to laugh. Joining the Church is extremely exciting and she looks forward to making friends here!

JAMES DAMON-married to Cassie and they have two beautiful children, Andrew, age 16 and Rilee, age 14. James, raised in Randolph County, graduated from Sloan Hendrix in 1996 and from ASU in 2001 with a BA in History. James is a U.S. Army Veteran and deployed in support of the Global War on Terror in 2002. He has been employed with Union Pacific Railroad as a Freight Conductor for 2 years. He enjoys spending time in the outdoors with this family, has a passion for American History and volunteers as an historical interpreter in his spare time.

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
MARCH 30	MARCH 31	APRIL 1	APRIL 2	APRIL 3	APRIL 4	APRIL 5
<i>Monday of Holy Week</i>	<i>Tuesday of Holy Week</i>	<i>Wednesday of Holy Week</i>	<i>Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday)</i>	<i>Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)</i>	<i>Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)</i>	<i>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</i>
Is 42:1–7 Jn 12:1–11	Is 49:1–6 Jn 13:21–33, 36–38	Is 50:4–9a Mt 26:14–25	Chrism Mass: Is 61:1–3a, 6a, 8b–9 Rv 1:5–8 Lk 4:16–21 Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper: Ex 12:1–8, 11–14 1 Cor 11:23–26 Jn 13:1–15	Is 52:13–53:12 Heb 4:14–16; 5:7–9 Jn 18:1–19:42	Gn 1:1–2:2 or 1:1, 26–31a Gn 22:1–18 or 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18 Ex 14:15–15:1 Is 54:5–14 Is 55:1–11 Bar 3:9–15, 32–4:4 Ez 36:16–17a, 18–28 Rom 6:3–11 Mt 28:1–10	Acts 10:34a, 37–43 Col 3:1–4 or 1 Cor 5:6b–8 Jn 20:1–9 or Mt 28:1–10

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Dear brothers and sisters, we too are invited to “prepare the Passover” of the Lord. Not only the liturgical one: that of our life too. Every gesture of willingness, every gratuitous act, every forgiveness given in advance, every effort patiently accepted, is a way to prepare a place where God can dwell. What does it mean for me today to “prepare”?

GENERAL AUDIENCE,
ROME, AUGUST 6, 2025

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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