



# Embracing the Mystery

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

**T**he Christian confession of a triune God cannot be explained, it can only be believed. It is not a cop-out to proclaim that this belief is rooted in mystery. Mystery is the essential language and experience of belief. We lose something when we try to explain a mystery instead of embracing it. It may make us uncomfortable; it may provoke more questions than answers. Regardless, it does not suggest the weakness of mystery but rather the beauty, the wonder, and the awe.

Embracing belief and living as a person of faith is a singular journey. You cannot believe for someone else, and that person, even one you dearly love, cannot believe for you. It is also important to understand that as singular as the journey of faith may be, it ultimately ends in community. Belief does not isolate a person, but rather invites a person to connect with others who also walk in faith.

The community/communion of the triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—is the perfect witness to the truth that mystery creates. One God, three divine persons. The Eucharist that we celebrate on this day proclaims the unity of our belief—to the Father, through the Son, by the power of the Holy Spirit. ●



LEARN ABOUT  
THE AUTHORS  
OF OUR PARISH  
COMMUNITY



**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and  
the love of God and the fellowship of  
the Holy Spirit be with all of you.**

**2 CORINTHIANS 13:13**

## Reflect

***How does the mystery of the Trinity reveal God's nature as a communion of love?***

**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**

**Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity Saturday May 30, 2026**  
 4:00 PM St Joseph Mass  
 Int: Parishioners  
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass  
 Int: Ronnie Rose, d

**Sunday May 31, 2026**  
 8:00 AM St John Mass  
 Int: Betty Steimel, d; Dick & Sarah Thielemier, d; Deceased members of Benny & Ann Thielemier family  
 10:30 AM St Paul Mass  
 Int: Parishioners

**Monday June 1, 2026**  
 No Mass

**Tuesday June 2, 2026**  
 No Mass

**Wednesday June 3, 2026**  
 No Mass

**Thursday June 4, 2026**  
 No Mass

**Friday June 5, 2026**  
 No Mass

**Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ- Corpus Christi Saturday June 6, 2026**  
 4:00 PM St Joseph Mass  
 Int: Parishioners  
 6:00 PM St Paul Mass  
 Int: Henry Dust, d

**Sunday June 7, 2026**  
 8:00 AM St John Mass  
 Int: Treva Throesch, d; Jeff & Paul Leister, d; L/D members Carl & Emma Throesch family  
 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**

**Sacristan Schedule**

June 6- Joan Gross June 7- Scott & Abby Tyler  
 June 13- Susan Meier June 14- Jeff Evers  
 June 20- Nick DeClerk June 21- Josh & Jill Neely

Financial Report	
May 28, 2026	\$8,044.51
2026 year to date	\$182,907.43
Children's Collection	\$63.00
St Joseph April 2026	\$3,523.32
DOLR April 2026	\$5,022.00
Food Bank, April 2026	\$1,118.31



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.



**BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER**

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



**Church Cleaning Schedule June 6-** 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**

#### **6:00 PM Saturday June 6, 2026**

Host Ministers: Tom & Chris Baltz

Cups: Alex & Tiffany Baltz

Cups: Pauletta Walker, Rose Hutsell

Altar Servers: Jake Baltz, Avery Seagraves, Valentina Nguyen

#### **10:30 AM Sunday June 7, 2026**

Host Ministers: Claire Garoutte, Debbie Hibbard

Cups: Jennifer Hibbard, Veronica Rose

Cups: Michelle Olvey, Brin Presley

Altar Servers: Kipton & Sawyer Jansen, Austin James

#### **6:00 PM Saturday June 13, 2026**

Host Ministers: Susan Meier, Paige Radcliff

Cups: Mitch & Teresa Baltz

Cups: Paul & Christie Yemma

Altar Servers: Abel Johnson, Aubrey & Cannon Hogan

#### **10:30 AM Sunday June 14, 2026**

Host Ministers: Cyndy Busick, Shelly James

Cups: Abby Tyler, Terri Jansen

Cups: Jill Neely & Jennifer Nichols

Altar Servers: Hayden Moore, Keegan Presley, Aven Thielemier

#### **6:00 PM Saturday June 20, 2026**

Host Ministers: Dc Tate, Maggie Baltz

Cups: Trish Thielemier, Kelly Throesch

Cups: Pauletta Walker, Rose Hutsell

Altar Servers: Luke, Jacob, Blakey Jansen

#### **10:30 AM Sunday June 21, 2026**

Host Ministers: Dc Tate, Monica Loyd

Cups: Claire Garoutte, Rene' Tyler

Cups: Debbie Hibbard, Jennifer Hibbard

Altar Servers: Owen Smith, Caroline Thielemier, Kogan Vaughn

Congratulations to Adler James Throesch son of Ryan & Emily Throesch who was Baptized at St Paul on May 23, 2026. Godparents are Bobby Meier and Paige Radcliff.

The Adoration Chapel has extra copies of the Arkansas Catholic. If you would like one, please take a copy home with you.

### **Nursing Home & Homebound June:**

Sarah Counts, Charlotte Baltz and Anna Mae Higginbotham

### **Ushers June:**

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

Sunday: Richard Blount, Doug Thielemier

First Saturday Devotion to our Blessed Mother is scheduled for June 6. Holy hour and confessions begin at 11:00 AM.

### **Sunday June 7 @ 5PM Fr. Stephen's Farewell Reception.**

Come show your appreciation for our dear Fr. Stephen before he goes to "shepherd his next flock".

We will serve salad, sandwiches, drinks. Please bring a finger food to this celebration.

**Join us at 6:30 pm for our 5th Annual Corpus Christi Procession** as we give public witness to our Catholic Faith by honoring the Real Presence of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. The procession will begin in the church, continue to the courthouse, Mary's Park, columbarium, church & return to the Parish Life Center. Rides will be available for those unable to walk the distance. Cake and ice cream will be served after the procession.

### **Path of the Apostles: Pilgrimage to Greece & Ephesus.**

Due to an overwhelming response, Arkansas Catholic is hosting a 2nd pilgrimage, to walk in the footsteps of St Paul, St John the Evangelist & according to tradition the Blessed Virgin Mary. Join Fr William Burmester, pastor of St Edward Church in Texarkana Sept 27-Oct 8, 2027. To learn more, an informational meeting will be held Sunday May 31 at 3PM in the parish hall at St Edward Church in Texarkana. RSVP at

<https://bit.ly/greecepilgrimage2027>. Register online or download the brochure at [Arkansas-catholic.com/pilgrimage](https://arkansas-catholic.com/pilgrimage). For more information contact Kathy Primm 501-771-0987 or [kathy@suesmithvacations.com](mailto:kathy@suesmithvacations.com).

**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, Jacquelyn 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, Blake Edwards, Dorothy Ward, Bonnie Schmidt, Elizabeth Smith, Margaret Weyer, Diane Kimble Ramsey, Fr. James Schaefer, Ronnie Risner, Larry Weick, Paige Catt, Kelly McCandless, Michele Early and Keith Broadway.

# Good News!

May 31, 2026  
The Most Holy Trinity (A)

Exodus 34:4b–6, 8–9 / 2 Corinthians 13:11–13 / John 3:16–18

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

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# Dear Padre

May 31, 2026

**During Mass, is it proper for the faithful to raise our hands when pronouncing the words, “For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever”?**

When the priest and people offer the Our Father together to God, the presider assumes an ancient posture of prayer, known as the *orans*—with arms extended and palms opened upward. After the Lord’s Prayer, the priest keeps his hands extended and says alone the embolism (“Deliver us, Lord...”). At the end, he joins his hands, and the people acclaim, “For the kingdom...” This acclamation is meant to be the people’s response to the embolism, and the priest remains silent for it. It would appear unnecessary for the faithful to now extend their hands during this acclamation—especially when it’s a response to an embolism prayer that just called for the presider to have extended his own hands and now has them joined together.

Although the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* doesn’t mention a specific congregational hand posture during this acclamation, it speaks in favor of “what serves the common spiritual good of the People of God, rather than private inclination or arbitrary choice,” stating that a common bodily posture “is a sign of the unity of the members of the Christian community gathered together for the sacred Liturgy: it both expresses and fosters the intention and spiritual attitude of the participants” (GIRM 42). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, 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](mailto:frstephenelser@gmail.com)  
 Secretary: Jane Smith (870) 378-5052 [stjohns4650@gmail.com](mailto: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**

*May 30, 2026 – June 7, 2026*

<p><b><u>St. John</u></b>                  May 31: Betty Steimel (d); Dick &amp; Sarah Thielemier (d); Deceased members of Benny &amp; Anna Thielemier                  Thur June 4: NO MASS                  Sun June 7: Treva Throesch (d); Jeff &amp; Paul Leister (d); Living &amp; deceased members of Carl &amp; Emma Throesch family</p> <p><b><u>St. Paul</u></b>                  Sat May 30: Ronnie Rose (d)                  Sun May 31: Parishioners                  Tues June 2: NO MASS                  Wed June 3: NO MASS                  Thur June 4: NO MASS                  Fri June 5: NO MASS                  Sat June 6: Henry Dust (d)                  Sun June 7: Parishioners</p>
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**Ministry Schedule**

	<b>May 31</b>	<b>June 7</b>	<b>June 14</b>	<b>June 21</b>
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Stella Steimel Dwayne Capps Angie Capps Becky Brown	Cathy Hausman Tina Sharp Jane Smith Rebecca Steimel	Cathy Hausman Tina Sharp Jane Smith Rebecca Steimel	Joe Steimel Lori Steimel Vernon Hausman Candace Steimel
<b>Servers</b>	Perry Throesch Caroline Stout Haley Stout	Madeleine Throesch Lucy Throesch Parker Liebhaber	Henry Taylor Catarina Throesch Jaxon Kasinger	Casyn Steimel Max Hoose Madison Throesch
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>June:</b> Amy McKenzie & Christian Helms <b>July:</b> Brenda Liebhaber & Elaine Wallis			
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>June:</b> Richard Thielemier & Jerry Lindsey <b>July:</b> Dale Throesch & John Wren			
<b>Money Counters</b>	<b>June:</b> Lori Bergman, Nick Wren, Konner & Sara Mulock <b>July:</b> Deb Martin, Dwain & Cathy Hausman			

**Weekly Financial Report**

**May 24 2026**    Loose Cash      \$343.00      Checks & Envelopes: \$1915.00  
 Catholic Communications:    \$20.00    Hall Rental    \$50.00    Votive Candles    \$93.65

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:** This week, Fr. Stephen will be at the annual priest retreat in Subiaco. As such, there will be no noon Mass this Thursday (June 4<sup>th</sup>) at St. John’s, and there will be no daily Masses at St. Paul.

**CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION AND FAREWELL PARTY:** Sunday June 7 – 5:00PM Father Stephen’s Farewell Reception; **6:30PM – 5<sup>th</sup> annual Corpus Christi Procession;** Ice cream served after the procession.

Give public worship to our Catholic Faith by honoring the real presence of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament beginning in church, processing to the Courthouse and returning to the Parish Life Center. Rides will be available for those unable to walk. Come show your deep appreciation for our dear Father Stephen before he goes to “Shepherd his next flock”.

Salad, sandwiches, drinks, ice cream provided. Please bring a finger food for the celebration.

**FAREWELL PARTY FOR FATHER STEPHEN:** Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:30 with a Choir Concert in Church. This will last about an hour and immediately following we will have a Farewell Reception in the Parish Hall. Meat will be provided by the Parish. We will be having a sign-up sheet a couple weeks before to sign up for potato dishes, vegetables and desserts. Let’s show our appreciation to Father Stephen for all he has done for our parish and make this a special event with a large turn-out.

**100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY MEMENTO’S:** We would like to have a display of any old items that might have come out of our Church. If you have anything such as candlesticks or any other Church items, please let us know. Also, if anyone has any Church related old pictures, we would like to use them. Thank you.

**ST JOHN’S PLAYGROUND UPDATE:** A committee has formed to update St. John’s playground. Committee members are Ben Throesch (chair), Jimmy Bergman and Christian Helms. They have already started fundraising for new playground equipment. If you would like to make a donation please see one of the committee members. Thanks

**DATES TO REMEMBER: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of current Church: Sunday October 11<sup>th</sup>, Mass will be at 10:30AM with luncheon following.

**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, Pam Zosso, Scott Trim, Lettie Hausman, River Wood, Diane Kimble Ramsey, Caren Kiefer, Dennis Weisenbach, Father Matthew Flatly (diocese of Jefferson City), Doris Flanigan, Bonny Schmidt, Marie Peters, Pam Murphy, Bridgette Kasinger, Danny McCurdy, Paula Johnson, David Cissel, Owen Rowe, 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.

# Dear Padre,

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**Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org**



TINNAKORN JORUANG / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

*To those in power, I repeat: listen to the voice of conscience! The apparent victories*

*achieved with weapons, which sow death and destruction, are in reality defeats and never bring peace or security! God does not want war, he wants peace, and he strengthens those who are committed to leaving behind the spiral of hatred and taking the path of dialogue.*

ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### Monday

June 1

*St. Justin, Martyr*

2 Pt 1:2–7

Mk 12:1–12

### Tuesday

June 2

*Weekday*

2 Pt 3:12–15a, 17–18

Mk 12:13–17

### Wednesday

June 3

*St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs*

2 Tm 1:1–3, 6–12

Mk 12:18–27

### Thursday

June 4

*Weekday*

2 Tm 2:8–15

Mk 12:28–34

### Friday

June 5

*St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr*

2 Tm 3:10–17

Mk 12:35–37

### Saturday

June 6

*Weekday*

2 Tm 4:1–8

Mk 12:38–44

### Sunday

June 7

*The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)*

Dt 8:2–3, 14b–16a

1 Cor 10:16–17

Jn 6:51–58