

Dear Padre,

I was taught that Catholic churches are built on consecrated ground. How can a church be torn down and replaced by a shopping mall if it's sacred ground?

Church buildings are blessed and considered by the Church to be sacred places. But when they're damaged and can no longer be repaired or their repair is impractical or they no longer effectively serve their purpose for the faithful of God, the bishop can remove that blessing. By doing this, the bishop opens them for nonsacred use. Subsequently, they can be torn down or sold, as long as the new purpose is not scandalous to the people of God.

In the end, what is truly sacred is not the brick and mortar or even the soil, but the purpose for which they were built. Churches are blessed and declared sacred because we perform sacred rituals within them. When those rituals are no longer being performed in that location, there is no longer a need for them to be declared sacred.

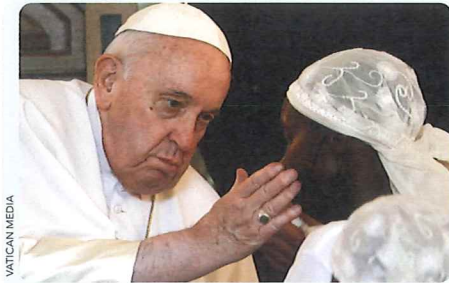
When a church is closed, it is often a sad event. Many people carry deep emotional ties to their parish churches. But a diocese cannot always maintain all of its churches. Catholic populations shift, local needs change. Money is limited, and good stewardship demands that bishops sometimes make the difficult decision to close or merge parishes. Remember what is truly important and of ultimate and sacred value—our worship and service of God. ●

Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
November 13	November 14	November 15	November 16	November 17	November 18	November 19
St. Frances	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	St. Elizabeth	Weekday	Thirty-third
Xavier Cabrini,	Wis 2:23–3:9	Wis 6:1–11	Wis 7:22b–8:1	of Hungary,	Wis 18:14–16;	Sunday in
Virgin	Lk 17:7–10	Lk 17:11–19	Lk 17:20–25	Religious	19:6–9	Ordinary Time
Wis 1:1–7				Wis 13:1–9	Lk 18:1–8	Prv 31:10–13,
Lk 17:1–6				Lk 17:26–37		19–20, 30–31
						1 Thes 5:1–6
						Mt 25:14–30
						or 25:14–15,
						19–21

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Jesus wants to tell us that we must be prepared for the encounter with him. Not only for the final encounter, but also for the everyday great and small encounters, with a view to that encounter for which the lamp of faith is not enough; we also need the oil of charity and good works.

ANGELUS, ROME, NOVEMBER 8, 2020

Our Parish COMMUNITY



The Light of Wisdom

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

The dark of night can unsettle and frighten children, but darkness can disturb adults, too. It's not so much the feeling when the lights go off that unsettles us grownups as it is the dark of uncertainty. We graduate from school and wonder what to do with our lives. Should we stay in a relationship? How do we find meaning again in the midst of grief and the loss of someone we love? And sometimes most of all, where is God when we need God? We may even wonder whether to believe. At such times, we bump and bruise our way through the obstacles that life's darknesses cause.

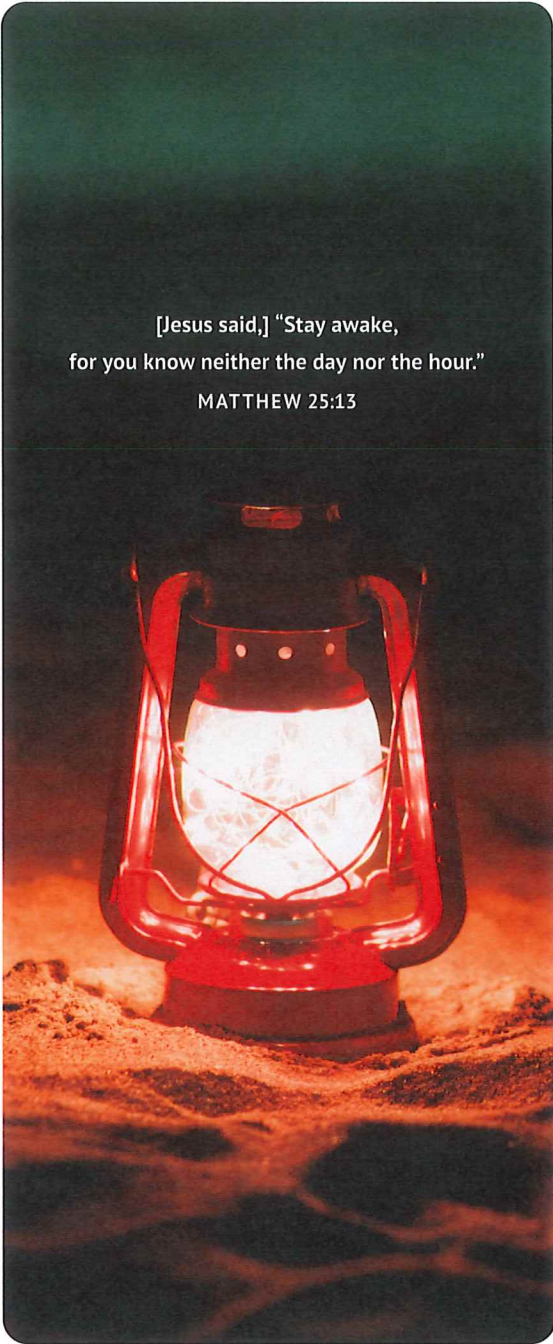
Leonard Cohen's song "Anthem" echoes a note of hope when we feel lost in the dark as he sings about how light always seems to find a way to seep in between the cracks of our everyday living. Like stars that are visible only at night, new opportunities are often most readily recognized when we find ourselves stumbling through the dark.

Long before Leonard Cohen, Jesus told the parable of ten virgins, some wise and some foolish. In the midst of that story, he tells of a bridegroom who comes to the waiting virgin attendants at midnight. In other words, it is the Lord God who comes into our lives in the darkest times, if only we are wise enough to recognize such a coming.

How then to negotiate the darkness? Stay the course. In time, wisdom reveals a path. Trust that light will come, all in God's time and not ours. Finally, wisdom always comes in the darkest of times, seldom when our lives are bright as day. ●

Reflect

When and how has God entered into your darkness?





Rectory & Parish Office
600 Soderberg St. Lakin, KS 67860
Mailing Address: PO Box 983
Fr. Peter Tran, Pastor—355-6405
Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Email: saintanthonylakin@gmail.com
Website: saintanthonylakin.org



Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee 355-6388
Lisa Gannett, DRE 355-6611
Gwen Waechter, Parish C. Chair 272-1030
Tressa Powers, Finance C. Chair 355-6206
Altar S. President, Nanette Rice 355-7676
Tom Bachman, Grand Knight 640-8259
Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek 355-1696
& Nanette Rice 355-7676

Reconciliation: Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

Baptism: Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

Marriage: Please contact parish priest at least four to six months before the wedding.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11/11/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Volunteer, Jason Velasco, Ryann Bamberger

Reader: Karen Burden

E.O.HC: Rosary & Tom Bachman

11/12/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Kirbe & Kipton Koons, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

Reader: Mike Broeckelman

E.O. HC: Del & Julia Kaps

33th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11/18/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Lucy, Jonathan, & Nathan Gannett

Reader: Tom Bachman

E.O.HC: Debbie Frederick, Gwen Waechter

11/19/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Cade & Jace Berning, Luke Woodrow

Reader: Hannah Schauf

E.O. HC: Toby & Jessica Luhman-Fuller

COLLECTION for November 5, 2023

Envelopes: \$810.5; Loose: \$629; Online Giving: \$1342.57

Total \$2,782.07; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under +1,020.9

CHURCH PROJECT GOAL

\$52000—Building Fund To Date: \$37595.74. *Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards*

November 12, 2023

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“My Soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God (PS 63)”

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Nov. 11 4:00 p.m. People of our parishes

Sunday, Nov. 12 9:00 a.m. Charles & Mary Margaret

Monday, Nov. 13 5:30 p.m. David Hoang

Tuesday, Nov. 14 9:30 a.m. David Hoang
(Tuesday Mass at the High Plains Retirement Village)

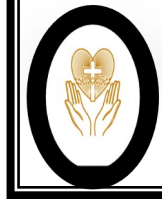
Wednesday Nov. 15 6:00 p.m. Las Almas del Purgatorio
(EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOLLOWS MASS UNTIL 8:30 P.M.)

Thursday, Nov. 16 12:10 p.m. Gary Sack

Friday, Nov. 17 7:30 a.m. Rebecca Burden

Saturday, Nov. 18 4:00 p.m. Steve & Debbie Guy Family

Sunday, Nov. 19 9:00 a.m. Greg Schmitz



This Sunday's Gospel story (Matthew 25:1-13) is one of those Scripture passages that can be somewhat difficult for modern readers. However, the purpose of this Gospel invites us to be vigilant and attentive, for we do not know “neither the day nor the hour.” And we would be wise to not take it lightly.

My friends, I can't tell you precisely how to make yourself able to be “found,” make yourself ready to have an intimate encounter with God. Each of us and our journeys is unique. Yet, there are some things which seem to be somewhat universal, things that need to be there if we want to meet God continually --- in every moment of every day. These are the things which keep our “lamps lit,” keep us ready and prepared. And so, let's keep our lamps lit by, first and foremost, by desire --- that deep longing to meet our God. Let's keep our lamps lit by attentiveness --- always keeping God in the forefront of our minds.

Let's keep our lamps lit by humility and gratitude --- avoiding a sense of entitlement when it comes to God's blessings. And let's keep our lamps lit by an openness of heart --- a willingness to let God come to us on his terms, as he sees fit, and for his purposes. That way --- we'll never miss the encounters of a lifetime. Fr. Peter

THE TRAVELING MONSTRANCE AND ADORATION This Month During the visit of the Diocesan Traveling Monstrance in our parish during November, Father is offering additional times for Adoration besides on Fridays. On Wednesdays the Holy Mass will be at 6:00 p.m. follows by Eucharistic Adoration until 8:30 p.m. This will include with Benediction. On Saturdays and Sundays Eucharistic Adoration will follow after Mass.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE During the month of November we hold in prayer all who have passed away in our parish in the past years. Located in our church vestibule is a Book of Remembrance to which parishioners may add lists of names of deceased friends and loved ones. All names will be remembered at our upcoming Masses in November.

ATTENTION TO CATHOLIC LADIES OF OUR PARISH We will be having a bake sale long with the “Holly Iuy” show again this year. Watch for the further details.

BUDGET SHOP We will be working at the Budget Shop on Saturday, November 18 and Tuesday, Nov. 21 Please keep these dates on your busy calendars and try to save a few hours to help us.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF DODGE CITY VOCATION DAY November 10, 2023 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This event is for all 5th and 6th graders in the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City; Catholic School, Public School, and Homeschool Students. Please note RSVP deadline is November 6th to Monica Del Real executivesecretary@dcdiocese.org or 620-227-1500.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (by St. Anselm of Canterbury) O Lord, you are my Lord and my God, yet I have never seen you. You have created and redeemed me and have conferred on me all my goods, yet I know you not. I was created in order that I might know you, but I have not yet attained the goal of my creation. I confess, O Lord, and give you thanks that you have created me in your image, so that I might be mindful of you and contemplate you and love you. I seek not to understand in order that I may believe; rather, I believe in order that I may understand.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION NOVEMBER 12

“Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.” - Matthew 25:13

Many of us have put off doing something because we think we are too busy. We’ve all said, “I’ll do it later when I have time.” Unfortunately, too many of us apply this attitude to our Faith. Jesus’ call is urgent, in the here and now, in your current circumstances. How is God calling you to use your gifts today? Don’t delay. None of us is guaranteed tomorrow.

“Por lo tanto, estén atentos, pues no sabemos ni el día ni la hora.” - MATEO 25:13

Muchos de nosotros postergamos hacer algo porque pensamos que estamos demasiado ocupados. Todos hemos dicho alguna vez, “lo haré más tarde cuando tenga tiempo”. Desafortunadamente, muchos de nosotros aplicamos esa actitud a nuestra Fe. El llamado de Jesús es urgente, aquí y ahora, en nuestras circunstancias actuales. ¿Cómo lo llama Dios a utilizar sus dones en este momento? No lo deje para más tarde. Ninguno de nosotros tiene garantizado el mañana.

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Matthew 25: 1-13)

Jewish weddings During Jewish weddings of this era the groom would bring his bride from her house into his house or, if he didn’t yet have one, into his father’s house. The families then celebrated the occasion with a feast. In this story the ten virgins/maidens are waiting for the groom to arrive home with his bride. They will then go out to meet him and accompany him and his new wife back to his home. The women have brought oil lamps. Once the wick burns through the oil, they will have to add more or the lamp will go out. If the wise women share the oil they had the foresight to bring, there might not be enough oil and all the lamps could go out, turning a happy, festive occasion into a much darker and embarrassing one.

Allegorical elements Parts of the parable are allegorical: Jesus is the groom, the groom’s arrival is the Last Judgment, and the wedding feast is God’s kingdom. Other parts aren’t allegorical: the oil and the women don’t represent anything or anyone in particular.

Repeated warnings The parable echoes Jesus’ warning that many will cry, “Lord, Lord,” but will not enter God’s kingdom (7:21-23). It also recalls the story of the foolish person who built a house on sand and the wise person who built on rock (7:24-27).

Stay awake All of the women doze off, but only some of them brought extra oil. Stay awake (v.13) is thus a metaphor for being prepared. Even when the groom is delayed for a long time, five of the women still don’t prepare for his eventual arrival. The parable leaves open the question of why these five women don’t plan ahead. The story focuses on the unexpected arrival of God’s kingdom. Everyone must be ready at all times – whether asleep or awake – for Christ to return. How to get and stay ready is a question we must each ask ourselves.

UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING OF THE WEEK - (Wisdom 6: 12-16)

A wise tradition The Book of Wisdom was written about a century before the birth of Jesus. Its author wrote primarily for Jews who were turning away from their religious heritage and embracing Greek culture and philosophy. The author tried to convince his fellow Jews that their ancestral faith was as good if not better than the Gentile ideas they were learning about. Lady Wisdom In the Old Testament God’s wisdom is often personified as a woman.

Lady Wisdom walks through the streets, calling out for people to learn from her. She hosts grand banquets at which people feast on her words (Proverbs 9).

Seeking Lady Wisdom doesn’t hide herself, but people must persist in seeking her and learning from her. In other words, God makes every effort to draw close to people and guide them. Those who take time to pray and reflect on how they can more truly follow God will find what they seek.

Unfading Wisdom is beautiful and permanent. Those who seek her find happiness in this life and the next. Those who reject her and seek their own path will find only death in the end (Wisdom 1:16f). (oursundayreadings.wordpress.com)

QUESTION OF THE WEEK What has worked for me in the past when I begin to get impatient? Going forward, what will I do to draw upon more patience?

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME, PART 3: SILENCE BEFORE MASS

The Mass

When we come to Mass, we recall the graces of our Baptism, genuflect to acknowledge Jesus truly present, and then we make our way to our seat. What is next? How about one of the best things churches were designed for? If there is a little time before Mass begins, some moments of prayer will help prepare you for the graces of the Mass.

Early Foundation

When I was growing up, I don't remember our family having many rules for us kids to follow. One that definitely stands out is the expectation regarding when we should be in church as a family. Mass was at 8:00 on Sunday morning, and my dad made it very clear that he expected us all to be seated together in the pew by 7:50 am. (Pew is the name for the long bench seats in churches.) Was it so we could get our preferred seat? I doubt it, since everyone in our small country church had our regular places! Looking back now on what dad modeled for us, I realize that the purpose of those ten minutes before Mass was for us to settle in, pray and prepare. I often think about what a great gift dad gave me by making it clear that attending Sunday Mass together was the top priority for our family.

How to Prepare

The *General Instruction for the Roman Missal* says that there should be a quiet opportunity in the church for the faithful to prepare prayerfully for the Holy Mass (GIRM, no. 45). During this time before Mass, you can recall all the great gifts and graces God has given you since you last came to church. This silence also provides the opportunity to reflect on the generosity of our loving Father and to prepare to thank him in the worship of the Mass. In addition to thankfulness, you might also recognize any needs you have—you might talk to God about any difficulties, stresses, or anxieties you are experiencing and offer them to the Lord, asking for his help and grace. It can be difficult to enter into this time of silence to help prepare for Mass, especially if we have not yet made it a habit. If you are short on time, Charles Belmonte encourages you to pray on the way to Mass. He writes, “Prepare your soul for Communion with acts of love of God. Make acts of contrition and atonement...pray for the priest that he may truly minister to the needs of the parish. Pray for the congregation...pray that you may understand what you yourself will be taught at Mass” (*Understanding the Mass*, pg. 38). Belmonte goes on to also encourage using a missal or missalette to review the readings [1] and prayers of the Mass ahead of time. Being familiar with these will also help you to be more attentive and unite your personal prayer more fruitfully with the Mass.

Intentions

One tradition you may not be aware of is the opportunity personally to offer an intention for each Mass we participate in, asking that the graces we receive from the Mass be applied to someone who might need them or to a particular

situation. As he prays the Eucharistic Prayer, the priest offers the Mass for a public intention (usually published in the bulletin or announced). Those present are also able to offer a private intention by uniting with the prayers at the altar. For example, you might make an intention for your family to grow in love, the health of a friend, the soul of a deceased relative, reconciliation for a strained relationship, peace in the world, or a greater recognition of the dignity of all life. In addition to assisting our brothers and sisters in Christ, praying about an intention for the Mass is also a great way to help us be more attentive to the prayers and readings and to receive more fully the fruits of the Mass. Give yourself a goal of arriving at church a bit earlier, and take the challenge of spending a little time in prayer before Mass. In addition to the suggestions above, any of our classic prayers or even composing a prayer of your own is a great way to help prepare your heart for the celebration of the Mass. In our time, when everything can be so busy and hurried, I often think of my dad's great wisdom in giving the family a few extra minutes of quiet preparation.

For Reflection:

1. Before you next participate in Mass, pray with the invitation the Lord gives us in these verses: “Be still and know that I am God!” (Ps. 46:10) and “Pour out your hearts to God our refuge!” (Ps. 62:8). Keep these verses in mind as you bring the fruits of this time of prayer to your preparation before Mass in the church.
2. Do you arrive at Mass with others, such as family members or friends? Discuss the importance of having time for prayerful preparation before Mass and decide what time you want to be at church.

THIRTY –SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Last things

November's a good time to consider our responsibilities to those who depend on us and may be nearing the end of life. (Or perhaps we're getting long in years ourselves.) We know our social obligations: Write a will, make our medical preferences known to doctors and family members. But Catholics have other duties too. Offering forgiveness and being forgiven are vital issues at the end of life—and every year of life. We have to ensure the sacraments are available to the elderly and the sick. How vigils, funerals, and burials are conducted matters to us. Reflect on these things now. (Preparetheword)

TRIGÉSIMO SEGUNDO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Últimos asuntos

Noviembre es un buen momento para pensar en nuestras responsabilidades hacia quienes dependen de nosotros y pueden estar acercándose al final de la vida. (O quizás nosotros mismos nos estemos haciendo mayores.) Conocemos nuestras obligaciones sociales: Redactar un testamento, dar a conocer nuestras preferencias médicas a médicos y familiares. Pero los Católicos tenemos también otros deberes. Ofrecer el perdón y ser perdonados son cuestiones vitales al final de la vida—y en cada año de la vida. Tenemos que asegurarnos de que los sacramentos estén disponibles para los ancianos y los enfermos. La forma en que se llevan a cabo las vigiliass, los funerales y los entierros nos importa. Reflexiona sobre estas cosas ahora.