

# Dear Padre,

## Are Catholic religious orders dying?

Yes...and no.

In Africa and Asia, some religious orders are vibrant, with orders of men and women religious increasing in number. In the United States, Europe, and Oceania, it's a different story. As many as 300 of the 420 institutes of women religious in the US are in their final decades of existence (*Leadership Conference of Women Religious*, 2019). One-third of all women's congregations in the US have fewer than fifty members. In the US, sisters over age ninety far outnumber those under sixty. Consequently, many communities fall short of the number of active ministers needed to replace their elderly and retiring members. The story is similar for many orders of religious men.

As those in religious orders struggle to remain effective in their mission and ministry for God and humanity, they are reimagining styles of leadership, levels of administration, and, in short, ways of getting the job done. This includes, for example, creative partnerships with laypeople to share in the charism, community life, and ministry of the religious order.

People are still drawn to Jesus and the work of building the kingdom. Only God knows how this "building process" will look in the future. As in all challenging times, the Church remains hopeful. From crisis comes resurrection! ●

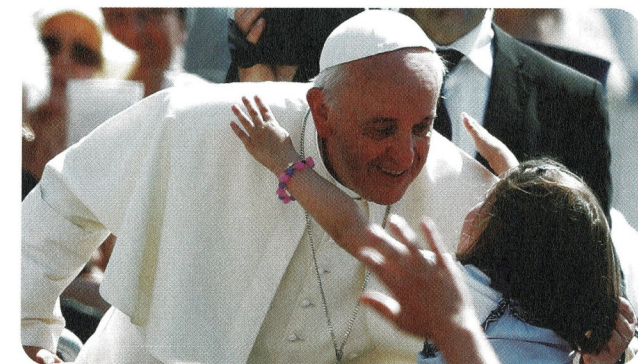
Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org



CNS PHOTO/JAMES RAMOS, TEXAS CATHOLIC HERALD

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 27	March 28	March 29	March 30	March 31	April 1	April 2
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or Dn 13:41c-62 Jn 8:1-11	Nm 21:4-9 Jn 8:21-30	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 Jn 8:31-42	Gn 17:3-9 Jn 8:51-59	Jer 20:10-13 Jn 10:31-42	Ez 37:21-28 Jn 11:45-56	Mt 21:1-11 Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Mt 26:14-27:66 or Mt 27:11-54

**Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective**  
Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.



### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

**Take away the stone from your heart! Let the Word of God restore life where there is death. Jesus repeats to us: "Take away the stone." God did not create us for the tomb....He created us for life, [which is] beautiful, good, joyful.**

ANGELUS, MARCH 20, 2020

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 26, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)

Ezekiel 37:12-14 / Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45 or John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



## Called from the Pits

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

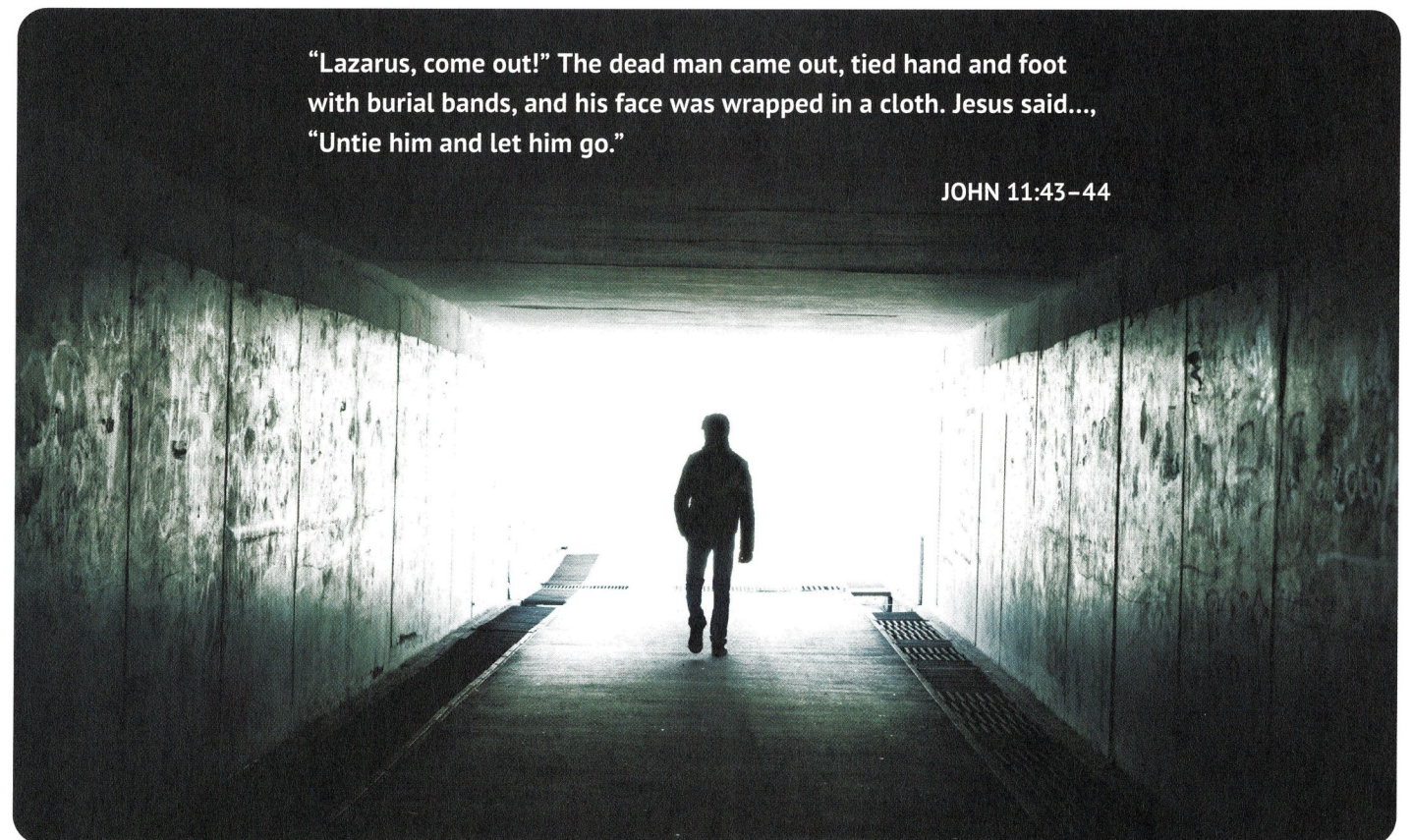
**W**hen I feel sorry for myself or just down in the dumps, when I feel buried by life not going the way I think it should, sometimes I remember to stop thinking about myself and my problems, and I say to myself, *I need to go care about someone else*. It seems that doing so pulls me out of that tomb of darkness and back into the light. Then I ask myself, *Why didn't I do that sooner?* The truth is, I didn't remember. But the very fact that I eventually do remember is the spirit of God dwelling within me that pulls me back into life, just as Paul once wrote (Romans 8:9 and the verses afterward). It's like hearing a voice calling me out of a dreary tomb of death, just as sure as Lazarus heard Jesus calling him out.

Have you experienced times when your spirit feels dead, but then someone or something calls

you back into life? I have. When that happens to us, I think we've been blessed with a hint of the resurrection. When I find myself wondering if there is really life beyond death, if resurrection really does happen to us, then I think about all the times that what I thought was a death turned out to be some unexpected doorway to new life. If that happens with such little deaths along the way, wouldn't it also happen on our last day on this earth? ●

### Reflect

**Have you ever experienced something that seemed terrible at the time that turned out to be a blessing in disguise?**



**"Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said..., "Untie him and let him go."**

JOHN 11:43-44





# St. James Parish Family

201 N. Missouri Street  
Potosi, MO 63664



## Weekly Mass Schedule

Mon	No Mass
Tues	8:00 AM
Wed	8:00 AM
Thurs	8:00 AM
	6:00 PM
Fri	8:00 AM
Sat	8:00 AM
	4:30 PM
Sun	8:00 AM
	10:00 AM

**\*HOLY DAY SCHEDULE:**  
Please check the Bulletin for Mass times.

**E-MAIL:**  
stjameschurch@centurylink.net  
**WEBSITE:**  
www.stjamespotosi.org  
**FACEBOOK:** St. James Catholic Church @stjamespotosi

**Office Hours:**  
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Tuesday thru Thursday  
Phone: 573-438-4686

**Parish Hall or Parish School of Religion**  
Phone: 573-436-0144

## Confessions:

**Saturday: 3:30 - 4:10 PM**  
**Thursday: 5:00 - 5:30 PM**

## Staff

**Rev. Rodger Fleming**—Pastor  
rodgerfleming@archstl.org

**Susan Broombaugh**—Admin Asst  
stjameschurch@centurylink.net

Maintenance:

**Julie Wright:** Coordinator of Religious Ed. (573) 436-0144/727-808-9273  
stjamespsr@gmail.com

**Laura Allen**— Assistant Coordinator, Religious Ed.  
573-436-0144/573-366-5235



MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF:  
**March 27, 2023**



MON	8:00 AM	No Mass
TUE	8:00 AM	Bill Moore
WED	8:00 AM	Richard Dix
THU	8:00 AM	Leonard Minor
THU	6:00 PM	Michael & Kate Moxely & family
FRI	8:00 AM	Jeanette Wright
SAT	8:00 AM	Geraldine DeClue
SAT	4:30 PM	Parish Family
SUN	8:00 AM	Jim & Susan Broombaugh & Family
SUN	10:00 AM	Nick Rolwes

## Week of: March 19, 2023

Envelope.....\$	3067.00	Main & Repairs.....\$	75.00
Loose.....\$	598.00	On-Line donations.....\$	65.90
SVDP.....\$	98.00	Catholic Relief svcs.....\$	912.00
Votive Lights.....\$	32.00	Easter Flowers.....\$	115.00
Light House.....\$			

## Special Ministers Week of: April 1 & 2, 2023 Palm Sunday



### Lectors:

Sat: 4:30 pm N: Bob Mills (1st reading & response)  
S: Laura Allen (2nd reading then speaker)

Sun: 8:00 am N: Susan Broombaugh (1st reading & response)  
S: Jamie Thompson (2nd reading then speaker)

10:00 am N: \_\_\_\_\_ (1st reading & response)  
S: Jamie Warden (2nd reading then speaker)

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Saturday 4:30 pm Sunday 8:00 am Sunday 10:00 am

### See Sign-up sheet please

**C:** Don Thompson  
**L:** Judy East Jamie Thompson  
**R:** Nikki Warden

### Servers:

Sat. 4:30 p.m. Volunteers  
Sun. 8:00 a.m. Volunteers  
Sun. 10:00 a.m. Volunteers  
**See Sign-up sheet please**

### Music:

Sat. 4:30 p.m. Chala Short  
Sun. 8:00 a.m. Rebecca Richards  
Sun. 10:00 a.m. Anita Govero or The Little Way Band

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS.**

Heavenly Duster: 3/31: Marilyn Carter & Jeanne DeGonia  
Altar Linens: 3/27: Connie Scott

### Mass Offerings -

Masses can be said for the living also; birthdays, anniversaries, etc. Come by the office or write the name & any preferred date on paper, put in envelope with \$10 for each Mass & drop in drop box or put in the collection basket at Mass. If the chosen date is available, I will schedule for that date, if not I will schedule next available.

**Paying Missouri Taxes? Support Catholic Schools Instead**  
**MOScholars provides scholarships to income-eligible students or those on Individualized Education Programs (IEP). Scholarships are funded by 100% state tax credits given to donors who fund the program. Provide a Catholic Education to Local Students in Need.**

### Word of Life

“There is an everyday heroism, made up of gestures of sharing, big or small, which build up an authentic culture of life... Part of this daily heroism is also the silent but effective and eloquent witness of all those ‘brave mothers who devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves’... We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life” (The Gospel of Life 86).

### March 25th: Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

Inspired by the example of the Blessed Mother, may we, like Mary, have the courage to say “yes” to life from conception to natural death;  
We pray to the Lord:

### March 26th

May all mothers facing difficult pregnancies be lovingly accompanied as they prepare to encounter Christ anew through the gift of their children;  
We pray to the Lord:

### Upcoming Events

Mar 29: Picnic/dinner mtg, Parish Hall, 6:00 pm. **All are INVITED**  
Mar 31: Youth Night, 6-8 pm, parish hall.  
Apr 01: First Saturday Marian Devotion Mass: 8:00 am

### What are Scrutinies?

The Scrutinies are described by the Church as “rites for self-searching and repentance, which are meant to uncover, then heal, all that is weak, defective or sinful in the hearts of the elect, (those participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), to enter the Catholic Church); to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong and good. The season of Lent involves a more intense period of examination and preparation for the Elect, and hopefully for those of us already living the Catholic faith. Though they are meant for the RCIA Elect, the Scrutinies can help all Catholics seeking to live a life of continuous conversion.

The Gospels on the three Sundays on which the Scrutinies are celebrated teach the elect about the mystery of sin, and fill them with the Spirit of Christ:  
- **Jesus encountering the Samaritan woman at the well**, where He offers Himself as the Living Water,  
- **Jesus healing the man born blind**, where He gives Himself as Light of the World, and  
- **Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead**, where He reveals Himself as the Resurrection and the Life.

During the Scrutinies this Lent, ask yourself: **what is defective in my heart and soul that needs strengthening? Resolve to ask for God's healing grace, go to Confession, and work prayerfully on those areas of your spiritual life.**

May we all thirst for the Living Water Christ offered the Samaritan Woman at the well, have our spiritual sight restored by Him who is the Light of the World, and bear witness to new life in Christ like Lazarus, who received the Resurrection and the Life.

**Our last Lenten Fish Fry Lunch will be April 7th 11:00 am to 1:00 pm drive thru only.**

**Bake Sale** Our last Lenten Ladies Sodality Bake Sale will be April 7th!



### \*\*\*\*\*FORMED\*\*\*\*\*

Formed this week!  
**St. Frances of Rome:** Join the Tierney family as they celebrate the feast of St. Frances of Rome, patroness of homemaking! Learn about practicing the corporal works of mercy in the home, the very Catholic Lenten history of pretzels and beer and watch Kendra & 3yr old Barbara make something they like to call “trash can soup”

**Week Five/Restore:** In week five, Sr. Miriam helps you discover the true meaning of **forgiveness**. She explains that forgiveness is not condoning bad behavior or letting someone “off the hook,” rather it is letting your grief and anger come to the surface so that you can allow the Lord to heal your broken heart. We are each in need of God’s grace to be able to forgive as freely and frequently as Jesus asks. Very important for the redemption of our souls.....  
**Lenten Penance Service April 4th @ 7:00 pm**

To sign up for “Formed”,  
Go to: <https://signup.formed.org/>  
Enter our parish’s zip code

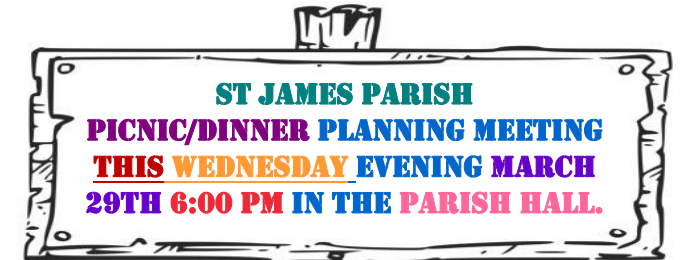
Enter your name and your email address. That’s it, you’re in.

### Dynamic Catholic Alive! The Theological Virtues

The Gospel story of Christ raising Lazarus from the dead is a beautiful account that teaches the power of faith, hope, and charity. These virtues are essential in allowing us to participate in the life of God. Christ states that he is the resurrection and the life and that those who have FAITH in Him will never die but will live forever. Those who HOPE in the Lord will not be disappointed but will look forward to eternal life with a fervent desire for heaven. Hope enables us to trust in God’s promises and to rely on His grace and not our own efforts. Finally, the story shows the LOVE Jesus had for His friend Lazarus. Jesus loves the Father perfectly and all His creation for the love of God. The theological virtues are infused by God into our souls to make us capable of acting as God’s children and of meriting eternal life (CCC 1813). As we approach Holy Week, let us pray for a deeper awareness of these glorious virtues that are present in us when we are in the state of grace.

### Holy Week

Apr 02: Palm Sunday, the Passion of The Lord  
Apr 04: Lenten Penance Service, 7:00 pm  
Apr 06: Holy Thursday, 7:00 pm Mass of the last Supper followed by adoration  
Apr 07: Good Friday, Fast & Abstinence, 3:00 pm SVC  
Apr 08: Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil Mass 8:00 pm  
Apr 09: Easter Sunday! Mass of the Resurrection 8:00 & 10:00 am



**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND. PLEASE COME AND SHARE YOUR IDEAS**

**LET'S MAKE THIS OUR BEST EVER PICNIC/DINNER.**

**SMILE & LET'S ALL HAVE FUN!**



**First Saturday Marian Devotion Mass April 1st @ 8:00 am**

First Five Saturdays Devotion to our Lady  
“You have seen hell, where souls of poor sinners go. To save them God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace.”



### Youth Night #2!!!

St. James Parish Hall  
Friday, March 31st  
6:00–8:00 p.m.

Kids ages 6 & up are encouraged.  
Lenten Service Project  
Fun and Games  
Dinner will included in our evening of FUN!!!!  
Remember how much fun we had last time? Come on out and bring a friend again!

### Youth Ministry

St. James youth is asking for your help. They are making “Blessing Bags” to donate to the Local Community Partnership. All donations can be dropped off at the Church Office, (Tues - Thurs) by **MARCH 31st**. Suggested items, **Small travel sized Items:** Deodorant, mouthwash, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, soap, lotion, socks, wipes, Q-tips, tissues, individual bags of peanuts, crackers, snack bars, peppermints, etc.  
We want to thank you in advance for your Generosity.



**St. James PSR NEWS**  
**Family Catechesis Helping Build Faithful Families!**  
Next Class will be **APRIL 23RD** Unit 7 is due.

May 14th; May Crowning/Mother’s Day, All are to attend Mass

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