

Dear Padre,

What is the value of lighting a candle in church?

Lighting candles is one of many customs that can be found in most of the world's religions. Lit candles, in church or at home, in front of a picture or statue of a favorite saint, serve a symbolic function. The light of the candle represents our desire that our prayer may be constant, as St. Paul urged (1 Thessalonians 5:17). The candle burns while we go about our daily tasks, symbolizing our desire to be at prayer with God. Similarly, Tibetan Buddhists spin prayer wheels and believe that as long as the wheels spin, a prayer is offered. Candles give light and banish the darkness. For Catholics they symbolize the light of Christ, by whose death and resurrection we are saved.

Lighting a candle isn't a required act. You can pray without lighting candles, without statues, without anything but your faith in God. However, we Catholics love our symbols. We like to engage all of our senses in our prayer experience: beautiful churches, colored light, incense, great music and, yes, candles.

One extreme position to avoid is lighting a candle hoping it will cause something else to happen, like the sudden cure of a loved one or relief from financial ruin. We are to avoid all appearance of using candles as if they have an untapped, magical power. Nevertheless, lighting a candle as a part of our prayer is a comforting custom and most things (and people?) look lovelier by candlelight. ●

Fr. Rick Potts, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 6	March 7	March 8	March 9	March 10	March 11	March 12
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Third Sunday of Lent
Dn 9:4b-10	Is 1:10, 16-20	Jer 18:18-20	Jer 17:5-10	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17-28	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20	Ex 17:3-7
Lk 6:36-38	Mt 23:1-12	Mt 20:17-28	Lk 16:19-31	Mt 21:33-43, 45-46	Lk 15:1-3, 11-32	Rom 5:1-2, 5-8
						Jn 4:5-42



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Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 5, 2023

Second Sunday of Lent (A)

Genesis 12:1-4a / 2 Timothy 1:8b-10 / Matthew 17:1-19



Once Upon a Mountaintop

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Many people, perhaps most people, have had a religious experience of some sort, something akin to that of Peter, James, and John atop the mountain with Jesus. It may or may not have included hearing a voice. Most often it is a deep sense of God's presence beyond anything they have ever known, like a profound realization of what life is about or how it is laced through and through with God. It usually occurs as we are idle, not doing anything in particular, and often when we are younger, yet it is also something that changes our understanding of what life and God are about.

Most people do not talk about such experiences for any number of reasons, partly because there do not seem to be words to describe such a moment in a way anyone would understand, like trying to describe falling in love. Partly because if we tried, we fear others would think us strange. And partly because we can find ourselves wondering whether it was real or simply our imagination. Yet always we remember the moment and know it to be true.

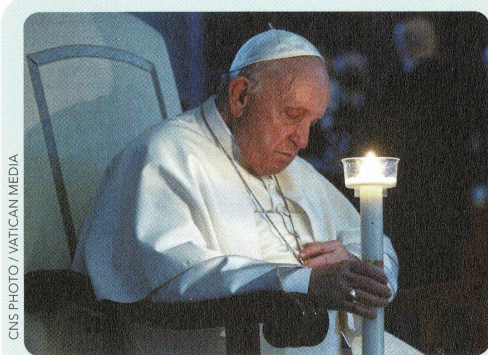
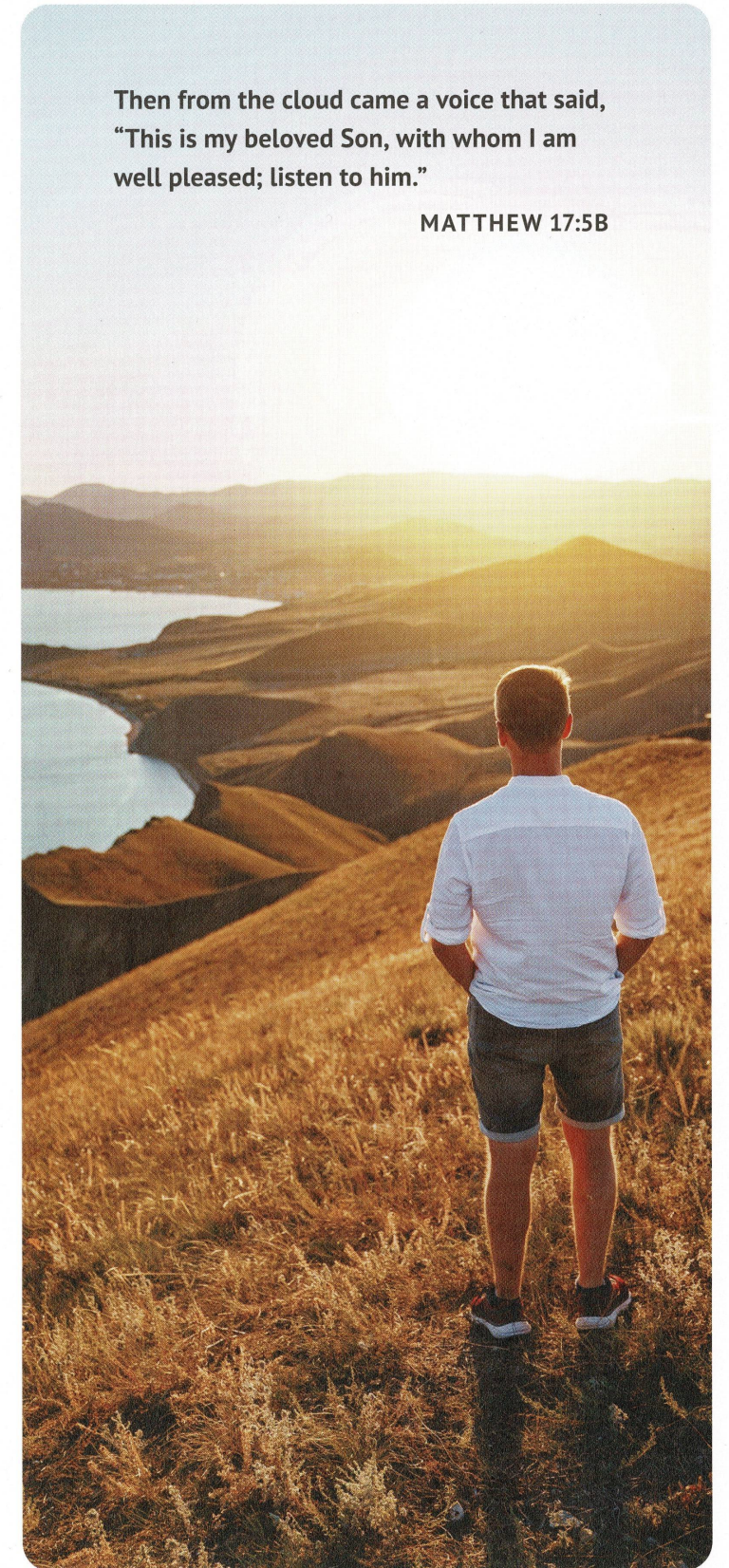
One additional characteristic of such moments is that they tend to take us to a new place in life, as with Abram in the first reading. For him it was to pack up his life and move. More likely for us it is to a life of service, caring, and treasuring all of life now in a new way. ●

Reflect

If you've had a religious experience, is there someone you can talk to about how it changed your faith?

Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

MATTHEW 17:5B



CNS PHOTO / VATICAN MEDIA

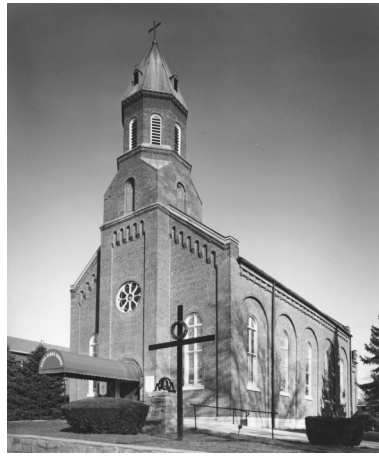
A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Do not be afraid to let yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit. Holiness does not make you less human, since it is an encounter between your weakness and the power of God's grace. For in the words of León Bloy,... "The only great tragedy in life is not to become a saint."

GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE (ON THE CALL TO HOLINESS IN TODAY'S WORLD), MARCH 19, 2018

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 6, 2023

MON	8:00 AM	No Mass
TUE	8:00 AM	Jim & Judy Politte Family
WED	8:00 AM	Heather Farrow
THU	8:00 AM	Janet Coleman
THU	6:00 PM	Snead & Coffey Family
FRI	8:00 AM	Abandoned Clergy Souls & Consecrated Religious in Purgatory
SAT	8:00 AM	Cyrella Boyer
SAT	4:30 PM	Randy Boyer
SUN	8:00 AM	Bess Lalumondiere
SUN	10:00 AM	Parish Family



Week of: February 26, 2023

Envelope.....\$	2477.00	Main & Repairs.....\$	165.00
Loose.....\$	650.00	On-Line donations.....\$	65.90
SVDP.....\$	181.00	Churches in Central &	
Votive Lights.....\$	56.52	Eastern Europe.....\$	432.00
Light House.....\$			

Special Ministers
Week of: March 11 & 12, 2023

Lectors:
Sat: 4:30 pm Paul Villmer
Sun: 8:00 am Jamie Thompson
10:00 am Charlie Schloemer



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

C: Laura Allen Don Thompson Marvin Wright
L: Judy East Sharon Forrester Dave Woodland
R: Vikki Neier Glenda Farrow Kim Coleman

Servers:
Sat. 4:30 p.m. Volunteers please
Sun. 8:00 a.m. Ava & Garryn West
Sun. 10:00 a.m. Daisy & Penelope Kearns

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.

SVDP food donations: breakfast foods, cereal, breakfast bars, etc

Heavenly Duster: 3/10: Sharon Forrester
Altar Linens: 3/06: Glenda Farrow

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.

Have you encountered God in your own life? Won't you share your "God Encounter"? Your encounter may be exactly what someone else **NEEDS** to hear. Send your stories to: stjameschurch@centurylink.net. If you want to remain unnamed, we can do that. Let's just start sharing our stories.

Word of Life

The Gospel of Life is "meant to be a precise and vigorous reaffirmation of the value of human life and its inviolability, and at the same time a pressing appeal addressed to each and every person, in the name of God: respect, protect, love and serve life, every human life! Only in this direction will you find justice, development, true freedom, peace and happiness!" (The Gospel of Life 5)

For each expectant mother considering abortion:
May the Lord provide for her needs
and give her the grace and resolve
to choose life for her child;
We pray to the Lord:

Lenten Study: FEARLESS: Lent 2023, don't walk the journey alone. Time & again, the people of God are called to be courageous and "be not afraid". Yet, we live in a time where fear seems to guide our very existence. Don't miss this exciting series with a special guest each week as we follow Jesus into the wilderness. Let's make this the most impactful & spiritually fruitful Lent of our lives. **(no cost!)**

Judy Wright's house, Tues evenings, 6:00 pm, potluck, pls RSVP

Upcoming Events

Mar 07: Ladies Sodality, 1:00 pm, Parish Hall
Knights of Columbus mtg, 6:30 pm, Parish Hall
FEARLESS Lenten Study, 6:00 pm @ Judy Wright's house, Potluck, RSVP, No cost!
Mar 12: Daylight Savings Time begins, Set your clocks ahead Sat night!!!!
PSR, 9-10, Parish Hall
Mar 13: SVDP mtg, 6:00 pm, Food Pantry
Mar 14: Parish Council, 5:30 pm, Parish Hall
Mar 17: St. Patrick's Day
Mar 20: Rural Parish Clinic Here at St. James

Vitae Foundation is hosting its Annual **St. Louis Pro-life Dinner** on **Tuesday, April 11, 2023**, at Hilton St. Louis Frontenac, 1335 S. Lindbergh Blvd. in St. Louis. The keynote speaker is **Kevin Sorbo**, an actor, director, and producer who is best known for his series, Hercules: The Legendary Journeys, which became the most watched TV show in the world! The Dinner event begins at 7 PM and registration is \$100 per person (\$50 tax deductible). Reservations may be made online at vitaefoundation.org or by calling 573-634-4316.

*****FORMED*****

Formed this week!
Faith Over Fear w/Rosemary Stefanick & Fr. Dave Pivonka: How do we maintain faith in the middle of fear and suffering? Chris' daughter Rosemary shares her life changing story of overcoming depression, clinical anxiety, and now her fight with multiple sclerosis. Chris also sits down with Fr. Dave Pivonka, who share his insights about the culture of fear and how we can combat it. Let faith in Christ create real breakthroughs to conquer fear.

Discerning God's Will: "How do I know what God wants?" Kowing the will of God can be an intiuidatig topic for people of all ages. In this talk, Fr. Larry Richards, the founder of "The Reason for Our Hope" foundation, delves into the process of discernment. With personal stories, practical steps and sound advice, Fr. Larry encourages all of us to dedicate ourselves to living in accordance with god's plan for us. Living this way will truly make us happy, because we will be oriented toward Heaven.

An Encounter with Mercy/Forgiven: We are not defined b or mistakes. In Confession, Jesus invites us to encounter his mercy nd to be healed by his love. When he tells us "Go and sin no more," he also gives us the grace to do so.

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!

Redemptive Suffering

When St. Paul writes to Timothy that he should bear his share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God, he teaches us that Christian believers will face adversity and trials throughout their life. The Gospel is great news, but it certainly challenges us to achieve spiritual perfection and growth in becoming like Jesus Christ. Christ was transfigured in the presence of three apostles to show them that He came to transform suffering during earthly life, not to eliminate it altogether. During the season of Lent, how may Christ be calling us to sacrifice for His sake and bear our burdens and sufferings as He did?

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Missouri US turns the clocks forward an hour; at 2:00 it will be 3:00
Set your clocks before you go to bed so you wont be late for church in the Morning.

STEADFAST IN FAITH

Jesus, You call us to pray, fast and give alms.
We, the people of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, thank You for Your call this Lent to grow steadfast in our faith.

In our Archdiocesan journey,
may we stay close to the Word and grow in virtue,
so that we may find mutual affection for one another
as we embrace the plan for the future of the Archdiocese.

Strengthen us with the discipline of prayer,
aid us in fasting from negativity and self indulgence.
Stir through the Spirit, a generosity for the needs of others
so that we may grow in charity.

As we journey through these days of Lent,
may we seek the power of the Spirit
to grow through your transformative Love, Lord.
Amen.



St. James Ladies Auxiliary are hosting bake sales during Knights' Fish Fry Lunches. Homemade baked goods by the piece or whole dessert for sale. Just drive by and pick out your dessert. Thank you for your support!

They're Back!!! Knights of Columbus Fish Fry's



I remember being on vacation one year and driving through a little Dutch town along the coast. There were several of us in the vehicle & the chatter was quite loud. Trying to quiet my mind, as I was looking out the window I saw a man walking along the sidewalk. He kind of looked like someone who lives around the beach areas, long stringy hair, shorts, tank-top and sandals. As he was walking, his hands were moving, he was talking and looking up toward the sky. I remember thinking he looked a bit crazy.

Not too long after that, I was kneeling in church praying after I received communion. Watching people while they processed up to receive communion, again I see that same image of the "beach bum". As I watched him go to forward, I remember thinking: he was totally not dressed appropriate to come to church let alone to receive the Eucharist. But as he received our Lord, I also saw the most love and respect for our Lord that I had ever seen. My eyes teared and my heart felt like it was going to explode. I've never seen this man again.

If you've ever read the "Joshua" series, this was the image that portrayed Jesus. There I was judging the man I saw on the coast and then again going to communion. I know God was teaching me not to judge others and from that day forward I have never lost the image of that man receiving Jesus in the Eucharist.
My God Encounter

St. James PSR NEWS

Family Catechesis Helping Build Faithful Families!
Next Class will be March 12th! Unit 6 is due. (Daylight Savings Time begins March 12th also, so set your clocks ahead 1 hour)

Join our Facebook page for all the latest and greatest information.

