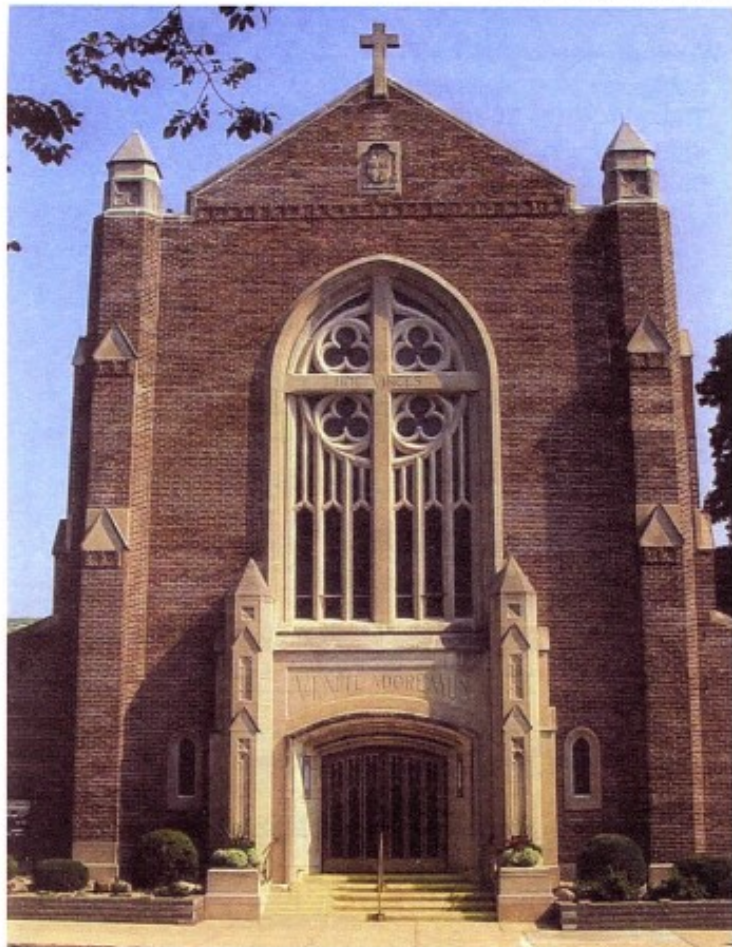


Holy Cross Church

Catholic Diocese of Peoria
1010 Jefferson Street • Mendota IL 61342
Phone 815-538-6151 • Fax 815-539-5014
www.holycrosscongregation.weebly.com



Mass Schedule

Please check inside cover for all Mass times.

Confessions

Saturday - 7:00 a.m. to 7:40 a.m. 3:00 to 3:45 p.m.

Sunday - 30 minutes prior to 6:30 a.m. Mass

Adoration Chapel

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

(Closed on funeral days and holidays)

Baptism

Pre-baptismal instruction is required. Call the office for information and scheduling a date.

Weddings

Before any other wedding arrangements are made, please contact the parish priest 6-8 months in advance.

Homebound and Hospital Visits

Please call the office during times of illness and visits will be arranged.

Cemetery Lots Purchase

Please call Steve Schmitt 815-538-5276

Pastor

Fr. Peter A. Pilon

Pastoral Work

Deacon Ray Fischer

Deacon Jose Lopez

Deacon Hector Diaz

Music Director

Roy VanOpdorp

Director of Religious Education

Brian R. Corrigan

Business Manager

Lorraine Walter

Administrative Assistant

Mary Lou Flahive

Ready, Set, Grow Extended Care

Julie Winner - 815-538-7604

Offers Day Care for 3 year old to 12 year old.

Learning Lambs Pre-School

815-539-7003

3 yr old and 4 yr old sessions

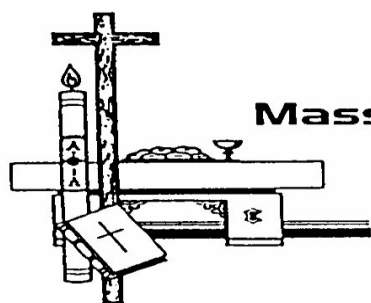


Holy Cross School

1008 Jefferson St. Mendota, IL 61342

815-539-7003

Principal - Anita Kobilsek



Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 6th

4:00 p.m. +Danny Arredondo
by Grandpa & Grandma Arredondo

Sunday, June 7th

9:00 a.m. +Karl Soliman by Tom & Mary Heitmann
12:00 p.m. María Adela Gómez by Family

Monday, June 8th

8:00 a.m. Our Benefactors by Tom & Mary Heitmann

Tuesday, June 9th

7:00 a.m. +Jane Kuczek by Gary & Todd Holland

Wednesday, June 10th

8:00 a.m. +Leroy Klein by Bertha Sondgeroth and Family

Thursday, June 11th

7:00 a.m. + Jim Leonard by Don & Carol McLachlan

Friday, June 12th

8:00 a.m. Mass of Thanksgiving by Nancy Goble

Saturday, June 13th

4:00 p.m. +Darlene Burke by Lee Burke

Sunday, June 14th

9:00 a.m. +Joseph McNally by Bruce & Jan Full
12:00 p.m. Angela Sánchez by Family

MASS IN THE PARKING LOT

Please see the inside back cover of the bulletin for information regarding Mass in the parking lot. Father has received permission to begin celebrating Mass in the parking lot, which will begin next Sunday—Pentecost Sunday. There will be two Sunday Masses, one in English and one in Spanish.

Obviously, Mass in the parking lot is a kind of stop-gap measure and is being utilized until such time when we can resume Mass *in church* with fewer restrictions on the number of people in attendance. And before we can get to that point, Father must have a team of volunteers to help transition back to our full public worship. If you are under 60 years of age, and do not have any compromising health conditions, please get in touch with Father and let him know of your availability. In the case of inclement weather, Father will fall back to celebrating via live stream on Zoom.

Please Read Carefully:

There are a few instructions you will need to follow.

1. Once you have logged into the meeting, please be sure to mute your audio input (your mic). If everyone responds online it sounds horrible. There will be one household designated as "the people" who will be heard by everyone, especially me so that I know when to continue.
2. If you want to be a reader, just email me and let me know and I can schedule that to make it happen. You can go to the USCCB website and find the daily readings if you do not have a missalette and you want to follow along.
3. Remember to respond at home as you normally would, just be sure you are muted. What you will see most of the time is the Chapel inside the Rectory here at Holy Cross, where I am saying Mass.



We will use the same ID and Password, and the same Link, for each Mass. You can either click on the Link, or go to Zoom and enter the ID and Password. They are the same for every scheduled Mass (it will say meeting on Zoom). The first time you go to Zoom you will have to enter a new id and password for yourself. But it is free and you can attend any meeting you want. Or you can download the app for your smartphone or iPad/tablet.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?pwd=RzZtRi8xNjltNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09>

Meeting ID: 913 805 0856

Password: 811195

The scheduled daily Mass times are as indicated under the "Mass Intentions" section.

Feel free to share this, and as was said previously, the link, ID, and Password are the same for all of the Masses. If there are any questions, Fr. Pilon may be reached by email at: frpilon@holycrossmendota.com

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Our Lady of the Cenacle Chapel Extended Eucharistic Adoration

"The devotion to the Eucharist is the most noble because it has God as its object; it is the most profitable for salvation, because it gives us the Author of Grace; it is the sweetest because the Lord is Sweetness itself."
~ Pope Saint Pius X

Pray that our Chapel may soon reopen so that we may once again fall down in Adoration of Our Blessed Lord exposed in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Chapel Coordinator, Karen Brandner
1-815-915-6635

Trinity Sunday

Alleluia, alleluia. Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; to God who is, who was, and who is to come. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

\$\$\$ DAILY DOLLAR WINNERS \$\$\$

Sat. May 30	132	50.00	Rachel Bejster
Sun. May 31	3063	50.00	Craig Fetzer
Mon. June 1	3040	100.00	Norbert Weber
Tue. June 2	1093	50.00	Mireya Lerma
Wed. June 3	3069	50.00	Brooke Garmon
Thur. June 4	3202	50.00	Terrie Bauer
Fri. June 5	2975	50.00	Donna Carr

The 2020 Daily Dollars are here!
A chance to win money and help our school!

SUPPORT YOUR GENEROUS ADVERTISERS! ! !
They make our bulletin possible.

Schwarz Funeral Home

Established in 1885

Catherine Thomas
Funeral Director

907 JEFFERSON ST. PH. 815-539-6261 MENDOTA

THE SUNDAY COLLECTION

Sunday	For the Week of	\$3,302.47
School	05/31/2020	55.00
Food Pantry		145.00
Ascension		30.00
Peter's Pence		20.00
Youth Ministry		25.00
Total		\$3,577.47

Give God what is just, not what is left!

Support Your Parish

Even though we are not able to attend Mass to worship together in community, our parish still needs our financial support.



You can make donations to the parish online through the diocesan website:

<https://cdop.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/parishes>

You can create recurring donations taken from your credit card, or make a one time donation.

Please know that you may also drop your parish donation envelope with your donation through the mail slot on the front door of the rectory. The money will still be counted and accounted for. The Business Manager is still going into the office briefly each day to take care of the mail and make sure all the bills are being paid, so any money supporting the parish will also be able to be deposited into the parish's bank account.

**** We are once again able to include the weekly offering tabulations in the bulletin. We will try to keep our bulletin up to date with the parish contributions going forward.**

"I'm not a materialist anymore. I don't think the world's made out of matter, I think it's made out of what matters. It's made out of meaning. Look at it from the perspective of modern brain science. What we orient towards unconsciously, which means what captures our attention, is meaning and it captures our attention before we know what it is."

- Jordan Peterson

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire
to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You
sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my
heart. I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me
to be separated from You.
Amen

Our Devotion for the Month of June is the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is one of the most popular Catholic devotions. Although it was beloved in previous centuries, Jesus appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in 1673, showing her a vision of the now-famous image of His Sacred Heart, surrounded by flames. He said to her: "My Heart is so full of love for men that It can no longer contain the flames of Its burning love. I must discover to men the treasures of My Heart and save them from perdition." She was given the special mission to spread devotion to His Sacred Heart throughout the Church. Jesus gave St. Margaret Mary many promises associated with this devotion, and requested that a feast day in honor of His Sacred Heart be instituted on the Friday after the Octave of Corpus Christi. In 1856, the Feast of the Sacred Heart was spread to the Universal Church, and in 1899 Pope Leo XIII solemnly consecrated all mankind to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, calling it "the great act" of his pontificate.



CONFESSION OFFERED

Confessions are held
on Wednesdays from
12 p.m.—1 p.m. and on
Thursday from 5 pm—6 pm
in front of Father's garage.

Please follow the signs as
they will direct you.



VIRTUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION OFFERED

If you would like to spend some
time before the Blessed Sacrament, Fr. Pilon will livestream
this Exposition, using the
same site as is used for
streaming the Holy Sacrifice of
the Mass (*see inside front cover for instructions*).

**The Adoration will stream from
2:00—3:00 p.m. on Sunday.**

**Exposition will be visible from
Michigan Avenue, as well...*



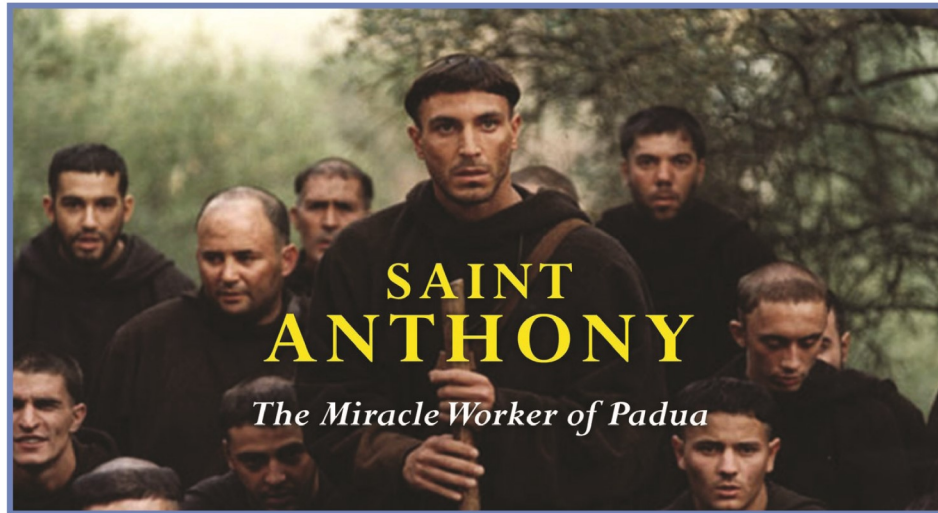
...AND DIVINE MERCY



Father will lead the
**Divine Mercy Chaplet at
3:00 p.m. on Sunday**, following the Adoration of
the Blessed Sacrament.

These additional devotions will be every Sunday for the foreseeable future.

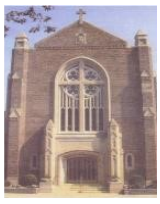
FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK



SAINT ANTHONY The Miracle Worker of Padua

Saint Anthony of Padua is known for his powerful preaching and miracles that won countless souls for Christ. This film beautifully portrays the power of his preaching, love for the poor/oppressed, and wonders of his miracles.

**SIGN UP FOR FREE AT
[FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP](https://formed.org/signup)**



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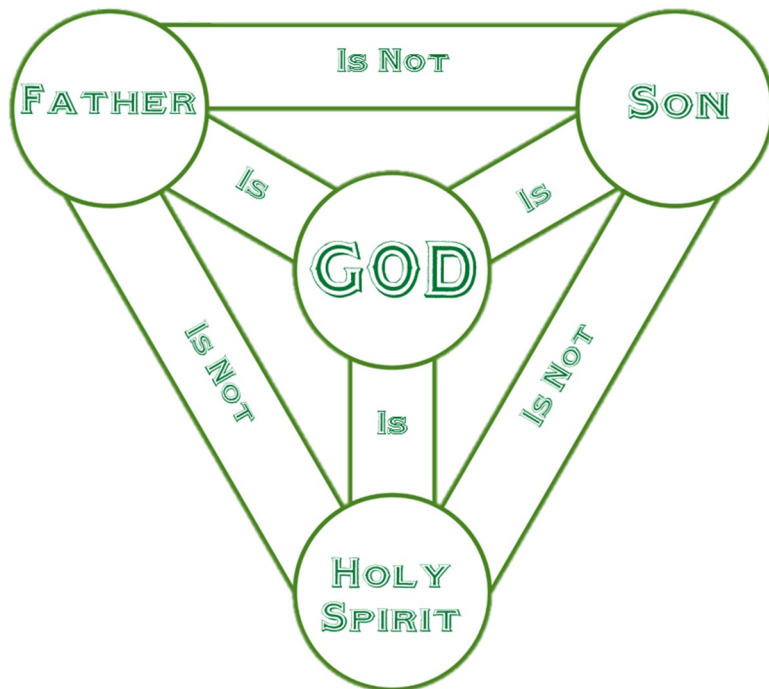
Why Be Catholic?

June 7, 2020

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

"O Lord God almighty. . . I bless you and glorify you through the eternal and heavenly high priest Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, through whom be glory to you, with Him and the Holy Spirit, both now and forever."

(Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna ca. 70–155 A.D.)



POLYCARP WAS A DISCIPLE of, and brought into the faith by, Saint John the Apostle. And like John the Apostle, Polycarp lived a full and long life. Unlike John, Polycarp was called to martyrdom for his faith. It was even written of by an eye witness at the time of his death by burning at the stake, that the scent of baking bread emanated from the body of the great saint and bishop.

I mention this to show how knowledge of the One, yet Triune God was extant from the very beginning of the Church. Indeed, God's multiplicity of persons was revealed in the creation story in the Book of Genesis, "Let *us* make human beings in *our* image, after *our* likeness..." (Gen 1:26, emphasis added).

Why is it important for us to know as much as we can about God being a community of Three Divine Persons? One of my favorite pastimes really and truly is contemplating the Blessed Trinity. (Also try wrapping your brain

your brain around the concept of eternity, that is, a state of existence in which our God never had a beginning, and will never come to an end. God has always existed and always will exist. Time did not start until God created it—"the first day."

So let's take another run at explaining this community of Three Divine Person, so that we can all come to know our God more profoundly, and living in a much deeper relationship with Him.

We should also proceed with the understanding that the reader already believes that God exists. Everything in the world—"seen, and unseen" exist because something, or more precisely *someone* spoke and willed it all into existence. That is our creation story in the Book of Genesis alluded to a bit earlier.

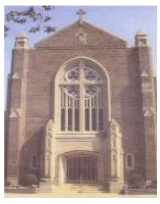
How can we know that there was this Supreme Being who brought it all into existence? In the story of Moses leading the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt, after his mysterious encounter with a bush that was burning, on fire, and yet not being consumed by the fire, he asks God for His name. God tells Moses to say that "I Am Who Am." This name means that God is the very essence of existence, and it is by God's existence that all else exists as well.

I hope that I have given enough proof of the existence of God to proceed with our explanation of understanding this one community of Three Divine Persons.

A Divine, Triune Family

Since we know that God referred to Himself as a plurality, we can flesh this idea out a little more by first considering that One God brought all into existence, referring to Himself as "us" and "our" in the creation of Adam—the first man, and Eve—the mother of the human race. We can look again to the creation story for more insight. As I've written before, the etymology of words is a fascination to me. In that creation story, reference is made to a "mighty wind" that swept over the waters of the newly created earth. The word that is translated as wind is actually derived from the Hebrew word "*ruah*". A word derived from the same root is used to describe the "breath of life" that God breathed into Adam's nostrils. Not only does this Hebrew word *ruah* translate to wind, but interestingly enough, it also translates to *spirit*.

That's right, *ruah* is not only the breath of God, but it is also the Spirit of God. We live because God has placed His Spirit in the human race. Now, we could consider these two Divine Persons sufficient for knowing that God is One, and at the same time at least two Divine Person...



Holy Cross

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Why Be Catholic?

June 7, 2020

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

But there must be some evidence for the missing Third Person of the God-head, right? Continuing with the Book of Genesis, the third chapter tells of the fall of man and the expulsion from the Garden of Eden. God admonishes the serpent, and Adam and Eve. In verse 15 God tells the serpent, **"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; They will strike at your head, while you strike at their heel."**

Saint Irenaeus of Lyons (ca. 130—200 A.D.), and also a disciple of Polycarp, wrote in *Against Heresies* that this was a reference to Christ, citing also Saint Paul's Letter to the Galatians to support his thinking. This is what is known as the *protoevangelium*, the first "Good News" of God's promise to send a Redeemer. So from the very beginning of the Bible, we have God revealing Himself to mankind as a Trinity of Divine Persons.

The Father and I are one...

In John's Gospel, Jesus claims that he and the Father are one (Jn 10:30). This passage takes place when Jesus is in Jerusalem for Hanukkah, the Feast of Dedication, commemorating when the Maccabees rededicated the altar and re-consecration of the temple in 164 B.C., after they had been desecrated by Antiochus IV Epiphanes.

Even at the very beginning of John's Gospel, he spells out for us that, **"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."** John the Evangelist is highlighting and retelling the creation story in light of Jesus' self-revelation.

When he says "in the beginning was the Word..." he is asking us to recall that it was the Word of God spoken, bringing all things into existence. All Three Divine Persons were present in the creation story, God the Father through His Son, the Word, called into existence all that the universe contains, and by the Holy Spirit brought the light of life into the midst of that creation, first through the plants, animals, and waters teeming with life, and then into Adam, and subsequently Eve, his help-mate and partner.

It's All About the Nature!

Now that we have established a Trinity of Three Divine Persons, coeternal and in total harmony and unity one with the others, we can consider how understanding the relationship within the Blessed Trinity is better understood as a challenge of nature rather than numbers. People have such a difficult time wrapping their heads around the idea of One God—Three Persons.

For this part, we need to refer to the diagram on the front side of this essay. It is also helpful to keep in mind the

creeds we recite at Mass or at the start of our rosary. A creed is a statement of beliefs. In our creed we state, "I believe in One God, the Father, almighty...I believe in One Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, *eternally begotten* of the Father...I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, *who proceeds from the Father and the Son...*" (emphasis added).

You can see in the diagram that this Trinity is represented by an equilateral triangle in which each member occupies one angle. We can also see the designation that all three Persons are indeed God, and at the same time, the Father is not the Son, nor is He the Holy Spirit; likewise for the Son (Jesus) as He is God, and at the same time is not the Father, nor is He the Holy Spirit, and also the Holy Spirit, while He exists as a member of this Divine Community of Three, He is not the Father, nor is He the Son.

Three does equal One!

As I mentioned before, this is more a challenge of nature, and not so much of number. Notice that the common denominator of these Three Persons is they each have/share a Divine Nature. We humans on the other hand, share a human nature. Is the picture forming yet? There are only Three Persons who possess a Divine Nature; presently on the earth there are some 7.6 billion people, all of whom possess only a human nature. The Three Divine Persons of the God-head constitute One Perfect Community; the 7.6 billion persons on the earth right now, and even those who have gone before us, and those who will follow after us will make up one broken community of humankind.

You will also notice that the diagram has the Holy Spirit positioned at the bottom, the better to illustrate His proceeding "*from the Father and the Son.*"

Our God is perfect in every way, but especially God is Perfect Love. God is perfect in intellect, and perfect in will. He is perfect in so many ways. In His perfect intellect and will, in His perfect Love, the Father's self-realization cannot but help to bring real fruit in the Person of His Divine Son; and as God *is* LOVE, the very real and perfect Love that transpires between the Father and the Son gives the Holy Spirit, that Third Divine Person who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

We can reflect on, and give thanks to, that Trinity of Persons, for through Jesus Christ, the only Person in history who has a Divine and human nature. These dual natures of God becoming man are the source and essence of our reconciliation with God.



June 7, 2020

Only Cross News of Note



**If you haven't taken
advantage of the parish
subscription to Formed,
you're missing out!**

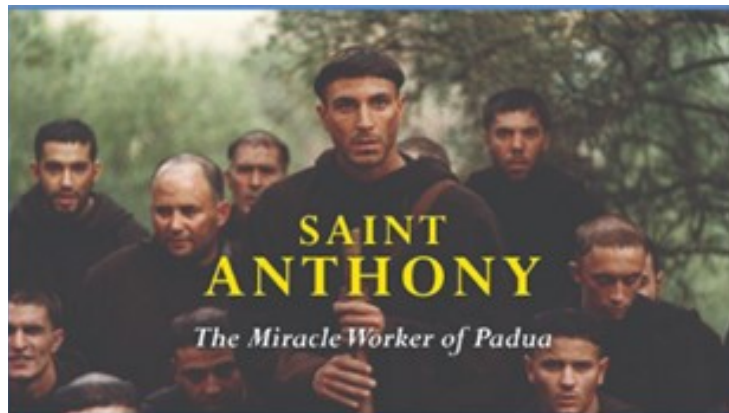
If you have not checked out the *new* FORMED.org website, we strongly encourage you to do so. It is chock-full of great videos, movies, eBooks and audio books, Bible studies, talks, and so much more!

All you need to do now is go to: [Formed.org](https://www.formed.org) and register an account by clicking on "Sign Up," then select "I belong to a Parish or Organization," find our parish by name, or zip, enter your email address and you're in. It's that easy!

What can we recommend for this week?

SAINT ANTHONY

The Miracle Worker of Padua



Saint Anthony of Padua is known for his powerful preaching and miracles that won countless souls for Christ. This film beautifully portrays the power of his preaching, love for the poor & oppressed, and wonders of his miracles.

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✧ Catechism Corner ✧

» What to do after Confession? «

THESE Q & A ITEMS ARE ADDRESSING QUESTIONS

USING THE BALTIMORE CATECHISM:

† *What should we do after confessing our sins?*

After confessing our sins, we should answer truthfully any question the priest asks, seek advice if we feel we need any, listen carefully to the spiritual instruction and counsel of the priest, and accept the penance he gives us.

† *What should we do when the priest is giving us absolution?*

When the priest is giving us absolution, we should say from our heart the act of contrition in a tone to be heard by him.

† *What should we do after leaving the confessional?*

After leaving the confessional we should return thanks to God for the sacrament we have received, beg Our Lord to supply for the imperfections of our confession, and promptly and devoutly perform our penance.

Further reading CCC ¶ [1485 - 1498]



*Prayer
Chain*

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Please pray for the following:

Prayers for peace and healing for a lady who has several blood clots and had heart bypass surgery on June 4.

Please pray for peace and healing for a 30-year-old woman who has a severe infection in her leg, and may have to have her leg amputated below the knee.

Those holy angels come to the knowledge of God not by audible words, but by the presence to their souls of immutable truth, i.e., of the only-begotten Word of God; and they know this Word Himself, and the Father, and their Holy Spirit, and that this Trinity is indivisible, and that the three persons of it are one substance, and that there are not three Gods but one God; and this they so know that it is better understood by them than we are by ourselves.

~St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430), Bishop, Doctor of the Church

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY



Religious Education

It's that time of year!

Even though our religious education school year finished with less than optimal conditions, it is time to look forward to the 2020-2021 school year. If you need to register your children please fill out the Registration Form that came along with this bulletin. Even if you have registered before, we need everyone to register again so we can be sure we have the most recent information for each family on file.

V O L N T E E R
all that's missing is U!

We are also looking for parents and any other qualified adults interested in passing on our faith to the children of our parish, to join our dedicated team of teachers and staff.

There are many ways to share your talents; whether you want to step into a classroom as a teacher-catechist, a teacher's assistant, office help, or as a volunteer before and after class to help ensure the safety of our students, please be assured there is a place for you!

We are specifically looking for someone to teach the 8th Grade Confirmation class to boys (preferably a male) and the 8th Grade Confirmation class to girls (preferably a female). We have an excellent program that is already organized with lesson plans, Teacher's Manual, workbooks for students, as well as small books for the parents and sponsors of the students. Volunteering is also an excellent way for families to

help out with the religious ed program if financial hardship would otherwise keep the child(ren) from being able to register and attend the classes.

I urge you to pray about it, and if you find yourself being called by our Lord to help in his vineyard in this way, please contact Mr. Corrigan, the Director of Religious Education by phone at 815.538.6151 or via email at briancorriganhcdre@gmail.com.

Be a volunteer—all that's missing is YOU!



How To Make a Good Confession

With life getting back to some semblance of normal, and things beginning to slowly open up again, maybe putting a plan in place to go to confession to be able to receive the Holy Eucharist with a clear conscience and in as great a state of grace as possible, we might give some thought



Prodigal Son, Pompeo Batoni

to what goes in to making a good confession. It is in that light that we present the following article...

A father watched his young son at work in the garden.

Instructed to remove the weeds, the son eagerly took up the challenge, taking garden clippers and lopping off the stems as close to ground level as he could maneuver. He assured his father that the weeds were gone, never to return, but the father knew better: without removing their roots the weeds would grow back.

Making a Good Confession

Making a good confession of our sins is like weeding the garden of the soul. Most of us have the experience of assuring our heavenly Father that we have removed all the weeds, but unless we attack them at their roots, we'll confess the same sins again and again.

It takes work to make a good confession. Focusing on behaviors and actions alone is like taking garden clippers to weeds: we may for a time cut off the parts we can see, but hidden within the soil of our behaviors the roots of sin are still growing. The real power of the Sacrament of Penance is unleashed when we expose the roots to God's grace.

The Desire to Change

Making a good confession starts long before stepping inside the confessional. Even before making an examination of conscience we should examine our motivation. Do we really want to change? St. Augustine describes his tepid approach to change in the midst of his conversion. Realizing the excesses of his lifestyle, he prayed, "Lord, give me chastity," and quickly added, "but not yet!"

A good confession arises from a heart that wants to change. This is the very core of a good confession — firm purpose of amendment. A humorous spin on the Act of Contrition comes from a child who hasn't quite memorized the words correctly: "Oh my God, I am partially sorry for having offended you..." If we're rigorously honest, however, we might admit that the child is speaking the truth. St. Augustine recalled that as he determined to leave certain sins behind he could hear those sins calling out to him as if old friends were inviting him to spend some time together again. A good confession is the fruit of prayer to God, begging the grace to want to change, to want to leave our sins behind, to want to hand our sins to God and never seek to take them back.

How should you make a good confession? Start by spending some time in prayer, preferably before the Blessed Sacrament so as to be better protected against the snares and wiles of the enemy, the deceiver. In prayer, ask God to show you the roots

of your sins, not just the external sinful behaviors. Ask God to shed light upon your motivations, the desire to sin, the reasons you make the choices that lead up to sin. It is one thing to ask God to show you your sins, but quite another to reach into the roots of your sins and eradicate the roots instead of the weeds.

Examination of Conscience

Next, make a good examination of conscience. That starts with an act of praise and confidence in God's grace. Acknowledging that you are in the strong and loving arms of God, trusting that God will care for you and provide for you, thanking God for the blessings of His grace — all of this is a fitting start to prepare for a good confession. With confident trust and abandonment to God's loving will it is easier to open your soul to God in the Sacrament of Penance; it is easier to want to change by first recognizing the good things that are part of total abandonment to God's mercy and grace. In the hands of God who created the soil and planted the Garden of Eden, why would you do less than trust Him completely with the garden of your soul?

Having placed yourself in the arms of God, the next step is to ask God to lead you through a thorough examination of conscience. There are many formulas for an examination of conscience. Some are based on the Ten Commandments, and others on the beatitudes. Still others focus on the Precepts of the Church or the teachings of saints. They are found in missals and prayer books, websites and mobile apps. Any of these can be a tool by which God can shed light on sin and the motivations for sin. It can be confusing and distracting to switch among several forms for an examination of conscience when preparing for a good confession, so it's best to pick one form and invite God to help you through it by the light of His grace.

Always approach the examination of conscience in prayer, and allow sufficient time for God to walk you through your sins, shedding His light on the roots of your sinful behaviors. Don't rush. Many saints advise a daily examination of conscience in order to recognize patterns in behaviors and in the

Making a Good Confession□

tendency to sin. A daily examination of conscience shows what circumstances, encounters, people, times of day, places and activities present the greatest temptations or vulnerabilities. Only by tracing patterns of emotion and behavior can we best recognize the roots of our sins as well as how to avoid sin in the future.

The best way to avoid sin is to avoid temptation. It is helpful as part of an examination of conscience to ask God to show you the steps that lead to sinful acts. Every sinful act starts with a temptation — ask God to show you where temptation lives in your daily life, and to show you the choices you made that led from temptation to sin. Again, pray for the grace to want to change those behaviors that lead to sin, or the roots will still thrive. Pray for the grace to want to remove temptation, the occasion of sin, from your life.

In the Confessional

Armed with more than a list of sins, but with a confident trust in God's goodness, an understanding of the motivations and causes of the inclination to sin, and better knowing how the path leads from temptation to sin, you can now enter the confessional with an open heart, soul and mind.

In the confessional, do not allow the enemy, the deceiver, to disquiet you or diminish your resolve to make a good confession. Some of his tactics are to tempt you to worry that the priest will think less of you if you mention all your sins, or to tempt you to think that you cannot change, or to tempt you to think that you are not worthy of God's mercy. Satan hates when someone resolves to make a good confession, and he will work overtime to lure the sinner away from God's mercy. Recognize the source of these thoughts and ignore them, resolved to open your soul completely to God. Instead, pay attention to the Holy Spirit, who is prompting you toward the peace and joy and healing of the Sacrament of Penance.

It is astonishing how many people stay away from confession out of fear of forgetting what to say or do inside the confessional. This is also Satan's deception, to keep sinners away from the wonderful

mercy of God. Two things are essential to the fruitful celebration of the Sacrament of Penance: the penitent's admission of sin that springs from a heart that wants to change (contrition and firm purpose of amendment), and the priest's absolution. All the rest is secondary, and there isn't a priest alive who won't help someone through the celebration of the sacrament once they've stepped through the confessional door.

Once inside the confessional, remember that the priest is acting *in persona Christi* ("in the person of Christ"). Speak to Christ himself, baring your soul without fear of judgment, but instead with a hunger for mercy and grace. The priest is bound by the seal of the sacrament, so that nothing you say can be spoken of outside the confessional. No priest thinks less of a sinner who repents, but rather thinks highly of a person who simply trusts in God's mercy.

Finally, take to heart the counsel of the priest and accept the penance he offers. He will invite you to express your contrition, the double-edged prayer that gives voice to sorrow for sins and the pledge of changing by God's grace. The priest will absolve you from your sins in the name of the Church. With a lighter heart, walk out of the confessional with all your sins forgiven, a child of God whose soul is a weedless garden of delight.

Mmgr. William J. King

Mmgr. King is a priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

<https://www.simplycatholic.com/how-can-you-make-a-good-confession/>

On this Sunday of the Most Holy Trinity, pay particular attention to the words you profess when we pray together the Creed, that is, our Profession of Faith.

Together we believe in One God, ... Father Almighty, ... One Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, ... the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.



How to make a Good Confession

Five Steps For a Good Confession

1. Examine your conscience.
2. Be sincerely sorry for your sins.
3. Confess your sins to a priest.
4. Resolve to amend your life.
5. After your confession, do the penance the priest assigns.

Procedure in the Confessional

You say:

"Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been - (state the length of time) – since my last confession. These are my sins."

Then tell your mortal sins and the number of times committed. If you have no mortal sin to confess, then confess the venial sins you have committed since your last confession. When you have finished telling your sins, you should say:

"For these and all the sins of my past, I am truly sorry."

The priest now gives the necessary advice, assigns your penance and asks you to say the Act of Contrition (in some form). Then wait and listen as the priest gives the absolution

Then say ***"Thank you, Father"***, then leave the confessional and then perform the penance assigned by the priest.

The Differences in sins

There are two kinds of actual sin, **mortal** and **venial**.

Mortal sin is a horrible offense against God, so horrible that it destroys the life of grace in the soul. Three simultaneous conditions must be fulfilled for a mortal sin: (1) the act must be something very serious; (2) the person must have sufficient understanding of what is being done; (3) the person must have sufficient freedom of the will. So I cannot commit a mortal sin if the matter is not serious (e.g., if I stole a small amount of money from my employer), or if I did not know what I was doing (e.g., if I were to hurt someone accidentally or unthinkingly), or if I did not act with full freedom (e.g., I was under physical or emotional pressure).

A Catholic should know well the difference between mortal and venial sins. Deliberately missing Sunday Mass without sufficient cause is to be considered a very serious mortal sin.

Examination of Conscience

- 1. I am the Lord your God. You shall not have strange gods before me.**
Do I give God time every day in prayer?
Do I seek to love Him with my whole heart?
Have I been involved with superstitious practices (horoscopes or ouija boards) or have I been involved with the occult?
Do I seek to surrender myself to God's Word as taught by the Church?
Have I ever received Communion in the state of mortal sin?
Have I ever deliberately told a lie in Confession or have I withheld a mortal sin from the priest in Confession?
- 2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.**
Have I used God's name in vain: lightly or carelessly?
Have I been angry with God?
Have I wished evil upon any other person?
Have I insulted a sacred person or abused a sacred object?
- 3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.**
Have I deliberately missed Mass on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation?
Have I not kept Sunday as a family day and a day of rest?
Do I do needless work on Sunday?
Do I make others work on Sunday?
- 4. Honor your father and your mother.**
Do I honor and obey my parents?
Have I neglected my duties to my spouse and children?
Have I given my family good religious example?
Do I try to bring peace into my home life?
Do I care for my aged and infirm relatives?
Do I respect my elders?
Do I respect my pastor, bishop, and the Pope?
- 5. You shall not kill.**
Have I had an abortion or encouraged anyone to have an abortion?
Have I physically harmed anyone?
Have I abused alcohol or drugs?
Did I give scandal to anyone, thereby leading them into sin?
Have I been angry or resentful?
Have I harbored hatred in my heart?
Have I been sterilized for reasons of birth control?
Have I encouraged or condoned sterilization?
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.**
Have I been faithful to my marriage vows in thought and action?
Have I engaged in any sexual activity before marriage or outside of marriage?
Have I used any method of contraception or artificial birth control?
Has each sexual act in my marriage been open to the transmission of new life?
Have I respected all members of the opposite sex, or have I thought of other people as objects?
Have I been guilty of any homosexual activity?
Do I seek to be pure in my thoughts, words and actions?
Am I careful to dress modestly, so as not to tempt others?
Have I been guilty of masturbation with myself.

7. You shall not steal.

Have I stolen what is not mine?
Have I returned or made restitution for what I have stolen?
Do I waste time at work, school or at home?
Do I gamble excessively, thereby denying my family of their needs?
Do I pay my debts promptly?
Do I seek to share what I have with the poor?

8. You shall not bear false witness.

Have I lied?
Have I gossiped?
Have I harmed someone's reputation?
Have I spoken behind someone else's back?
Am I critical, negative, or uncharitable in my thoughts of others?
Do I keep secret what should be kept confidential?

9. You shall not desire your neighbor's wife.

Have I consented to impure thoughts? Have I caused them by impure television, movies, books, magazines or internet?
Do I pray at once to banish impure thoughts and temptations?
Do I listen to, or engage in, impure conversations or jokes?

10. You shall not desire your neighbor's goods.

Am I jealous of what other people have?
Do I envy other people's families or possessions?
Am I greedy or selfish?
Are material possessions the purpose of my life?
Do I trust that God will care for all of my material and spiritual needs?

An Act of Contrition

"O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven, and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all good and deserving of all My love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin. Amen."

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Saturday Vigil:

- 4pm: St. Mary Bloomington; St. Patrick Bloomington; Hancock County Catholic; LaSalle Catholic; Logan County
- 5pm: St. Joseph Pekin; St. Thomas Philo
- 5:15pm: St. Matthew Champaign
- 5:30pm: Immaculate Conception Monmouth

Sunday Masses:

- 7:30am: St. Mary Bloomington
- 8am: St. Theresa Earlville; LaSalle Catholic; St. Philomena Peoria; St. Thomas Philo
- 9am: St. Patrick Bloomington; St. Mary Metamora; St. Jude Peoria; St. Vincent Peoria; St. Pius X Rock Island; Nativity Spring Valley
- 9:30am: St. Matthew Champaign; Christ the King Moline; St. Mary Pontiac; Stark County Catholic
- 9:45am: Sacred Heart Rock Island
- 10am: Holy Trinity Bloomington; Galesburg Catholic; Hancock County Catholic; LaSalle Catholic; Blessed Sacrament Morton; St. Bede Peru
- 10:30: St. John Newman U of I; St. Edward Chillicothe; St. Patrick Colona; St. Paul Danville; St. Mary Lourdes; St. Mary Kickapoo
- 11am: Fulton County Catholic
- 12pm: Holy Trinity Bloomington

Weekday Masses:

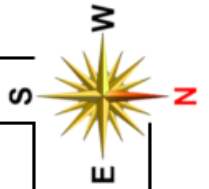
- 7am: St. Matthew Champaign; Nativity Spring Valley
- 7:30am: St. Edward Chillicothe
- 7:45am: St. Vincent Peoria; St. Bede Peru
- 8am: St. Theresa Earlville; Galesburg Catholic; Hancock County Catholic; St. Mary Kickapoo; LaSalle Catholic; Logan County; Immaculate Conception Monmouth; St. Philomena Peoria
- 8:30am: St. Jude Peoria
- 10:30am: Holy Trinity Bloomington (Mon-Sat)
- 11am: Fulton County Catholic
- 12pm: St. Mary Lourdes
- 12:10pm: Sacred Heart Rock Island

Spanish Sunday Masses:

- 9am: Immaculate Conception Monmouth
- 11am: St. Mary Bloomington
- 12pm: LaSalle Catholic



Watching the Mass being celebrated on TV or online is surely not the same as being there in person, but it does offer us an opportunity to worship in community while at the same time being a shut-in. We can still hear God's word proclaimed and contemplate the Blessed Sacrament while we perform an act of Spiritual Communion.



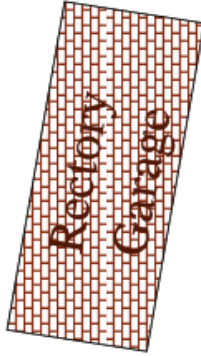
Holy Cross Church

Holy Cross School

Michigan Avenue

Pennsylvania Avenue

Monroe Street



- * Parking Lot Mass ~ Weather permitting
- * All cars **MUST** enter the parking lot from Monroe Street and point south toward the school.
- * Everyone **MUST** remain in the car.
- * The speaker will be loud enough to carry the sound to the farthest corner of the parking lot.
- * Communion will be distributed at the conclusion of Mass to each car.
- * Those cars on the outside along the fence line and Pennsylvania Avenue will receive and be dismissed first.
- * There will be "Ushers" to help direct traffic so entry and exit will be done in an orderly manner.
- * When there are two clergy present for distribution of communion, it will be especially important to pay attention to the ushers.
- * When Father is the only one distributing communion, please note, he will begin distribution along Pennsylvania Avenue, so as not to have people drive across in front of him with their cars (SAFETY).

Mass Times:

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - English 12:00 p.m. - Spanish

Monday: 8:00 a.m.

Tuesday: 7:00 a.m.

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m.

Thursday: 7:00 a.m.

Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

**** These times are subject to change.**
Please watch the bulletin for more information.

In inclement weather, Father will celebrate the Mass via Zoom, as he is currently doing now.

In addition, for the time being the Eucharist will continue to be distributed at 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Speaker

Altar

Fence Line



MASS IN THE PARKING LOT

It is also important to note that Father is planning to continue distribution of the Eucharist following the times initiated last week, i.e., 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Mon—Sat, and 9 a.m., noon, and 3:15 p.m. on Sundays.

ABOUT THOSE SUNDAY MISSALS

He will be passing them out at the weekend Masses to each car. He will try to get one for everyone and people should keep the missalette and bring it with you each time you come to Mass, whether Mass is in the parking lot, or we have moved back into the church. This will be a better and safer method than placing them in the pews and having them being constantly handled by many hands.

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

2 Corinthians 13:13



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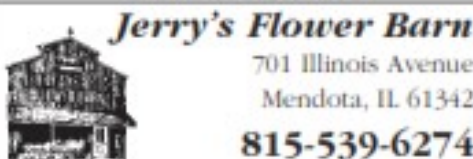
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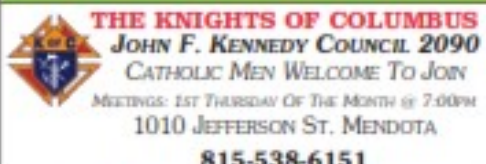
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