

Dear Padre,

I committed some grave sins many years ago, and I have been to confession to confess and be absolved, but I still feel guilty. Do I need to confess again?

Absolutely not. There is no need to confess your sins again. This is not required, and it may indicate a lack of faith in the power of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thankfully, the sacrament does not require perfection. It does not require any additional action on your part other than to be open to the movement of the Spirit of God.

Forgiveness is a gift from God. It is not something you merit. It is not something you earn. And there is no sin so terrible that God cannot forgive. Rather, it is a blessing you accept gratefully, thankfully, and with a profound knowledge and respect for the mercy of God at work in your life. To confess your sins again and again does nothing except make you feel more guilty. It is a way of punishing yourself; a futile attempt to try to earn what has been freely given. A better use of your time and energy would be to discover a way to remind yourself, not of guilt or imperfection, but of the love God has for you. It is indeed awesome and amazing, as the song so accurately celebrates: "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me." ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, 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*.



JESUS CERVANTES / SHUTTERSTOCK

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
May 5	May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 6:8-15	Acts 7:51-8:1a	Acts 8:1b-8	Acts 8:26-40	Acts 9:1-20	Acts 9:31-42	Acts 13:14, 43-52
Jn 6:22-29	Jn 6:30-35	Jn 6:35-40	Jn 6:44-51	Jn 6:52-59	Jn 6:60-69	Rv 7:9, 14b-17 Jn 10:27-30



SARAVUTPICS / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Brothers and sisters, when our nets are empty in life, it is not the time to feel sorry for ourselves, to take our minds off things, to return to old pastimes. It is time to begin again with Jesus, it is time to find the courage to begin again, it is time to put out to sea again with Jesus.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 1, 2022

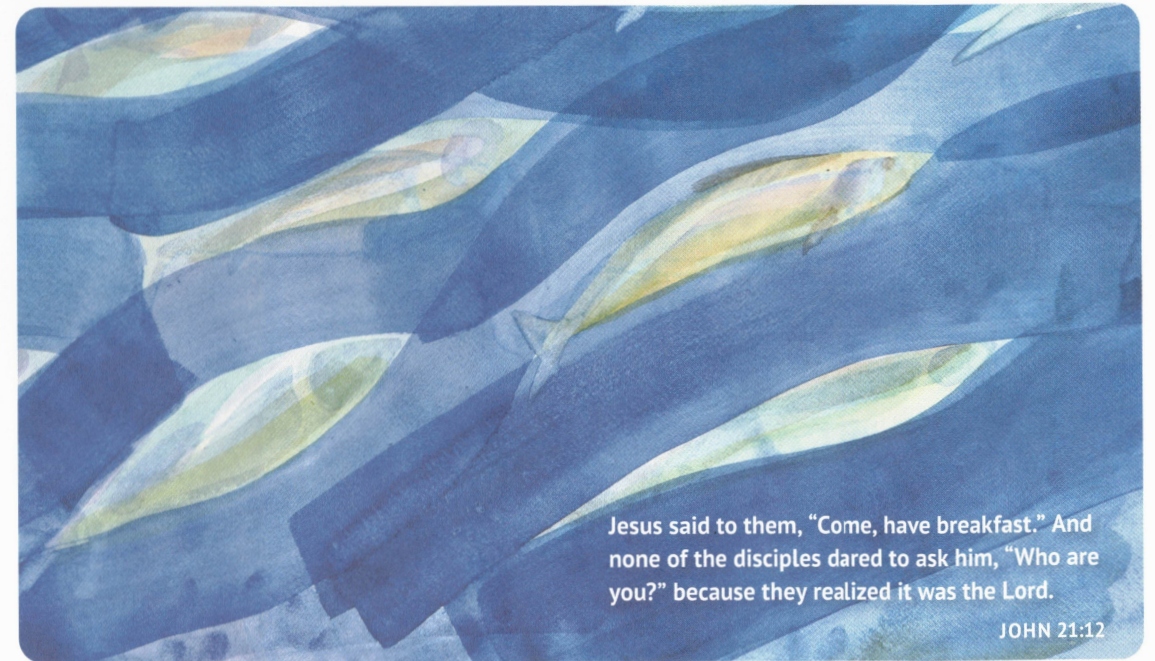
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Our Parish COMMUNITY

May 4, 2025

Third Sunday of Easter (C)

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 / Revelation 5:11-14 / John 21:1-19 or 21:1-14



Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast." And none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they realized it was the Lord.

JOHN 21:12

The Abundance

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Twenty-five years ago, when Carl was about eighteen years old, he asked me how he would know when he had truly fallen in love. How would he know that it wasn't simply infatuation or passion and that she was the right person? Today, Carl tells me that I said something to him about recognizing that if you have to ask the question, it probably isn't love; it is probably the woman who best captures the most attractive aspects of all the women he has ever dated, liked, or loved.

For the next twenty years or so, Carl never seemed to find that love he was seeking—until one day, it happened. He fell in love and got married. Five years later, I asked Carl if it was indeed love. He said he believed it was, even though during those years of empty seeking, he thought true love would never come to him. He also said he's convinced that it was the hand of God that brought them together. Of that, he has no doubts.

In its own way, Carl's story is really the story of Peter and his friends going fishing and finding nothing all night long. Then, at dawn, a voice from the shore suggests that they try the other side of the boat. Lo and behold, an abundance appears where there had been only emptiness. That's when Peter and his friends realize, "It is the Lord!" For us, too, we have those moments when we recognize God's hand in our lives. ●

Reflect

Is there a hole in my life that's waiting to be filled? Where am I looking?



The
Catholic Church
in Pocahontas County
West Virginia

OUR MISSION

Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
soul, mind,
and strength.
Love your neighbor as yourself.
(Mark 12:30-31, nab-re)

ST. JOHN NEUMANN PARISH & CHURCH OFFICE, 714 Tenth Avenue, Marlinton WV 24954
ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST MISSION, 92 Catholic Church Road, Rts 250 & 92, Bartow WV 24920
ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX CHAPEL, 6332 Snowshoe Drive, Snowshoe WV 26209
Telephone: St. John Neumann 304-799-6778, St. Bernard of Clairvaux 304-572-0847
Website: PocahontasCatholic.org
E-mail: Pastor@PocahontasCatholic.org



Charlie & Patty Bryant
Margaret Bryant
Ann Burke
Danielle Cade
Phillip Cobb
Drema Moore
Cynthia Olson
Quinn Riffle
Bob Smith

EUCCHARIST THIS WEEK

Monday	8:00 a.m.	St. John
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	St. John
Friday	8:00 a.m.	St. John
Saturday	6:30 p.m.	St. Bernard
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	St. John
	11:30 a.m.	St. Mark



*St. John Neumann Church is open for private prayer every day during daylight.
The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered before each Eucharist or by appointment, and at St. Bernard on Saturdays 5:30-6:00 p.m.
The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is available any time upon request.*



Please call the Church office (304-799-6778) if you know of a parishioner who is sick, in the hospital or nursing home, homebound, deployed, or in prison.

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800-352-6513.
To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888-434-6237 or 304-233-0880.
To report suspected cases of sexual misconduct or sexual abuse by a bishop or eparch, please contact ReportBishopAbuse.org or call 800-276-1562.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE PASSAGE
*"Worthy is the Lamb that was slain
to receive power and riches, wisdom and strength,
honor and glory and blessing."
(Revelation 5:12, NAB-RE)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTES

- **Five years ago during Covid-19:** bulletin of 3 May 2020 is attached to the on-line edition of our bulletin.
- Weekly **Bible Study** on the *Book of Revelation* will be this Thursday (May 8) at 2 p.m. at St. John Neumann Church. All materials will be provided, just bring a pen or pencil with you. Everyone is welcome to join.
- **Catholic Relief Services (CRS) collection** is this Sunday at St. John Neumann and St. Mark the Evangelist. CRS is the



U . S . A .
Catholic
Church's

overseas agency that provides help to needy people throughout the world, especially responding to disasters and emergencies. Because CRS has experienced native staff in many countries, it is able to respond quickly and

	LAST WEEKEND	
	<u>attendance</u>	<u>collection</u>
St. John Neumann	45	\$368.00
St. Mark the Evangelist	11	
St. Bernard of Clairvaux	36	\$218.00
Fund for the Poor		\$10.00
total	92	\$596.00

effectively when needed. With the cancellation of most US-AID funds by our government, CRS is even more important than ever, so please be generous with this collection.

- **Community Dinner** planning meeting scheduled for this Thursday (May 8) has been rescheduled to May 15 (Thursday) at 5:30 p.m. at Marlinton Presbyterian Church. We welcome new volunteers and new ideas.



Fund for the Poor
\$2,017.45 given in April
in direct aid for those in need.



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

First Reading (Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41)

When the captain and the court officers
had brought the apostles in
and made them stand before the Sanhedrin,
the high priest questioned them,
“We gave you strict orders, did we not,
to stop teaching in that name?
Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching
and want to bring this man’s blood upon us.”
But Peter and the apostles said in reply,
“We must obey God rather than men.
The God of our ancestors raised Jesus,
though you had him killed by hanging him on a tree.
God exalted him at his right hand as leader and savior
to grant Israel repentance and forgiveness of sins.
We are witnesses of these things,
as is the Holy Spirit
whom God has given to those who obey him.”

The Sanhedrin ordered the apostles
to stop speaking in the name of Jesus,
and dismissed them.
So they left the presence of the Sanhedrin,
rejoicing that they had been found worthy
to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13, *Grail translation, 1963*)

Response: I will praise you, Lord,
for you have rescued me.

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts a moment; his favor all through life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

The Lord listened and had pity.
The Lord came to my help.
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing.
O Lord my God, I will thank you forever.

Second Reading (Revelation 5:11-14)

I, John, looked and heard the voices of many angels
who surrounded the throne
and the living creatures and the elders.
They were countless in number,
and they cried out in a loud voice:
“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain
to receive power and riches, wisdom and strength,
honor and glory and blessing.”
Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth
and under the earth and in the sea,
everything in the universe, cry out:
“To the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor, glory and might,
forever and ever.”
The four living creatures answered, “Amen,”
and the elders fell down and worshiped.

Gospel Acclamation

Christ is risen, creator of all;
he has shown pity on all people.

Gospel (John 21:1-19)

At that time, Jesus revealed himself again to his
disciples at the Sea of Tiberias.
He revealed himself in this way.
Together were Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus,
Nathanael from Cana in Galilee,
Zebedee’s sons, and two others of his disciples.
Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.”
They said to him, “We also will come with you.”
So they went out and got into the boat,
but that night they caught nothing.
When it was already dawn,
Jesus was standing on the shore;
but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.
Jesus said to them,
“Children, have you caught anything to eat?”
They answered him, “No.”
So he said to them,
“Cast the net over the right side of the boat
and you will find something.”
So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in
because of the number of fish.
So the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter,
“It is the Lord.”

When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord,
he tucked in his garment, for he was lightly clad,
and jumped into the sea.
The other disciples came in the boat,
for they were not far from shore,
only about a hundred yards,
dragging the net with the fish.
When they climbed out on shore,
they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread.
Jesus said to them,
“Bring some of the fish you just caught.”
So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore
full of one hundred fifty-three large fish.
Even though there were so many, the net was not torn.
Jesus said to them, “Come, have breakfast.”
And none of the disciples dared to ask him,
“Who are you?”
because they realized it was the Lord.
Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them,
and in like manner the fish.
This was now the third time
Jesus was revealed to his disciples
after being raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast,
Jesus said to Simon Peter,
“Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?”
Simon Peter answered him,
“Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”
Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.”
He then said to Simon Peter a second time,
“Simon, son of John, do you love me?”
Simon Peter answered him,
“Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”
Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.”
Jesus said to him the third time,
“Simon, son of John, do you love me?”
Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him
a third time,
“Do you love me?” and he said to him,
“Lord, you know everything;
you know that I love you.”
Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.
Amen, amen, I say to you, when you were younger,
you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted;
but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands,
and someone else will dress you
and lead you where you do not want to go.”
He said this signifying by what kind of death
he would glorify God.
And when he had said this, he said to him,
“Follow me.”

Reflection (2022)

“Do you love me” asks the Lord of Peter. In a way, he asks that of each of us. Peter answers “Yes, Lord, you know I love you.” In a way, each of us answers the same way. But for the Lord, “love” is not something we say, but something we do. So he tells Peter, “feed my lambs,” “tend my sheep,” “feed my sheep.” And he tells us to take care of others, especially those who are hungry and those who are in need of care. Are you ready to follow?

Reflection (2025)

This year (Year C) during the Easter season, we hear passages from the Book of Revelation. If you listen to many TV preachers, so-called “evangelists,” and any number of self-proclaimed “prophets,” you probably are troubled and afraid of anything in the Book of Revelation.

But the Book of Revelation is the Easter story – it is all about the crucified and Risen Lord, Jesus Christ, the “Lamb” who was slain.

The two brief chants in today’s reading speak about the Risen Christ, the Lamb:

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain” – the moral stature of the Christ;
“to receive power and riches, wisdom and strength – qualities of Christ;
“honor and glory and blessing” – the adoration that is owed Christ;
“To the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb – equating Christ, with the one on the throne, the Father;
“be blessing and honor, glory and might, forever and ever.” – again, the adoration that is owed to God.

The Easter story is about the crucified and Risen Lord, and because of that, we Christians have hope, even in the face of difficulties, rejection, or persecution.

4 May 2025
Third Sunday of Easter

Penitential Rite

Lord Jesus, you comfort us with your love:

Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you shepherd us to new life:

Christ have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you nourish us with your Body and Blood:

Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Prayer of the Faithful

Almighty Father, we join with our brothers and sisters, lifting up our needs in prayer:

- for the Cardinals gathered in Rome for the Conclave, that they will be attentive to the Holy Spirit, we pray
- for those in power and those with influence, that they will use their gifts for the good of all people, we pray
- for those discerning their vocations in life, that they will respond to the needs of the people of God, we pray
- for those who work and for those seeking employment, that they will be treated fairly, we pray
- for those who are ill, and for those who care for them, that they will be consoled, we pray
- for all those who have died, that they will be saved, we pray
- and for your other intentions

(pause)

for all our intentions spoken and unspoken, we pray

Merciful Father, hear our prayers, and lead us always to your truth. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.



The
Catholic Church
in Pocahontas County
3 May 2020

OUR MISSION

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. (Matthew 28:19-20, NAB-RE)

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ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST MISSION, Catholic Church Road, Routes 250 & 92, Bartow WV 24920

ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX CHAPEL, Snowshoe Drive, Snowshoe WV 26209

Telephone: St. John Neumann 304-799-6778, St. Bernard of Clairvaux 304-572-0847

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Ann Burke
Beth Daly
Wayne Flippen
Harry Gillum
Jenny Heil & Baby Heil
Evelyn Hollandsworth
Cheryl McCullough
Gigi Mayne
Drema Moore
Tristen O'Steen
Harry Price
Annie Vaughan

EUCCHARIST THIS WEEK

All Masses
as well as all other events
at Catholic Churches in West Virginia
have been cancelled,
and all Catholic Schools are closed,
because of threats of the Corona Virus,
until further notice.



*Fr. Arthur will be celebrating a private Mass
without a congregation
each day at St. John Neumann.
The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered
any time by appointment.
The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick
is available any time upon request.*



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From Fr. Arthur

If you get on-line, listen to the radio, maybe watch television, you probably hear such a variety of voices telling us how things are or what should be done. It certainly can be confusing. I try to listen to those who are knowledgeable in their fields, and who have no obvious financial or political agenda. Because what's important is not money or partisanship, but good sense and good health.

I will continue to be available throughout this crisis, so please contact me personally if you have any individual needs, pastoral or otherwise, and I will do what I can to help you. Likewise, please contact me if you need help yourself or you know of people in need of help from our Fund for the Poor. You may contact me by my e-mail (Pastor@PocahontasCatholic.org), my telephone (304-799-6778) or my cell phone (304-923-7346).

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

*"The sheep hear his voice,
as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out."*

(John 10:3, NAB-RE)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTES

- **A very special thank you** to all our parishioners and others – the unsung heroes – who continue to serve the community, despite risks to their own safety, in health care, law enforcement, fire departments and EMS, mail and delivery, stores and businesses, food service, food pantries, schools, trash collection, the National Guard, and so many others. Take time to show them your appreciation.
- **So many of you** have sent donations to our *Fund for the Poor*, which has been used so far to buy food for the food pantry and weekend school meals, and down the road to pay utility bills, help with rent and health care, and assist with transportation, all for those in need. Thank you all.
- **A little humor** from one of our parishioners.



"Never, ever, think outside the box."