

Dear Padre,

I'm marrying my girlfriend! Although she grew up Catholic, she doesn't practice the faith. Is it still OK to marry her?

Will you enter marriage with your fiancée because of a mutual love for each other? Do you both understand that this love will be strengthened by the sacramental grace of your matrimonial union, a grace you will receive because of baptism, not practice? Will you both try to create a loving family and, together as a family, try to be open each day to the grace of God already at work in your lives? Do you both realize that this grace calls you to create, in the name of Jesus, a witness to the truth of the gospel, which is even more powerful than the love you share?

If you hesitate to answer any of these questions with a wholehearted “yes,” then consider exploring these questions together with your pastor or another person helping to prepare you for marriage. Perfect faith is not required for a good, sacramental marriage. Openness to faith is believing that the Lord who has brought you together is not yet finished with either of you. You both have more to learn, and, with God’s grace, you will respond to his love. Jesus will work through both of you in ways that you may not even be able to imagine. In that spirit, marry her, build a life together, and know that God’s plan for you will always be there. ●



EVINDA DENIRKAYA / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Holy Saturday...is the day in which heaven visits earth most deeply. It is the time in which every corner of human history is touched by the light of Easter.... Nothing can be excluded from [Christ's] redemption. Not even our nights, not even our oldest faults, not even our broken bonds. There is no past so ruined, no history so compromised

that it cannot be touched by mercy.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, SEPTEMBER 24, 2025



MARCO JACOBELLI EPI / SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday April 6 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 2:14, 22–33 Mt 28:8–15	Thursday April 9 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 3:11–26 Lk 24:35–48	Sunday April 12 <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i> <i>(Sunday of Divine Mercy)</i> Acts 2:42–47 1 Pt 1:3–9 Jn 20:19–31
Tuesday April 7 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 2:36–41 Jn 20:11–18	Friday April 10 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 4:1–12 Jn 21:1–14	
Wednesday April 8 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 3:1–10 Lk 24:13–35	Saturday April 11 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 4:13–21 Mk 16:9–15	

Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 5, 2026

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (A)

Acts 10:34a, 37–43 / Colossians 3:1–4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b–8 / John 20:1–9 or Matthew 28:1–10



Believing Is Seeing

MIGUEL DULICK

We celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring, which is also the first Sunday after Passover. The whole history of the world comes to this point, and today’s gospel catches the eternal thrill of that day. A desperate Mary Magdalen cannot find her Lord in the tomb. Thinking that his body has been stolen, she alerts the apostles. Peter and John go running, and a moment of unforgettable suspense follows as first Peter and then John enter the tomb. The details are significant. They saw the burial cloths there and “the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place” (John 20:7). Thieves would not have taken

the time to unwrap the body and fold the face cloth. These details are intended to point to the truth of the resurrection. They saw and believed!

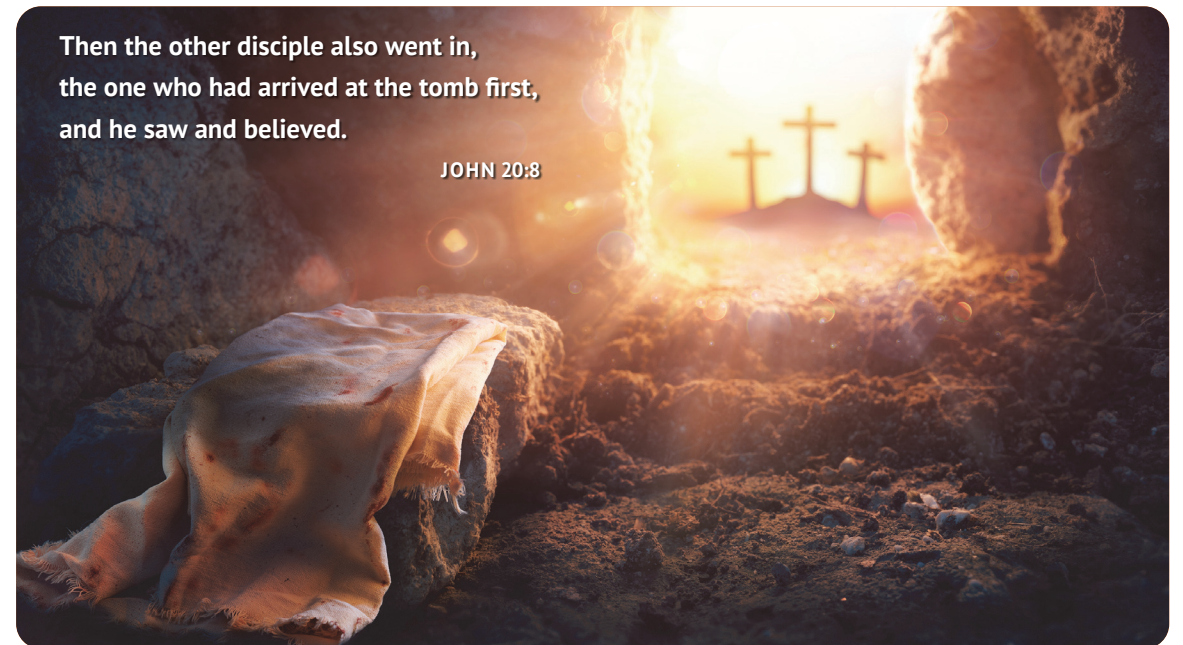
The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles follows the story of the centurion Cornelius, the first prominent pagan convert. (His story is fascinating—take time to read it this week.) Peter gives a speech including a kind of catechism that had been standardized in a formula repeated at least six times in Acts. This proclamation, or *kerygma*, incorporates the message and the motivation for a change of life. God anointed Jesus, raised him from the dead, and promised that all who believe in him will be forgiven their sins and rise with him. Happy Easter! ●

Reflect

Why do I believe in the resurrection, and how does my belief impact my life?

Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed.

JOHN 20:8





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



Patty Bryant
Margaret Bryant
Ann Burke
Danielle Cade
Matt Madruga
Cynthia Olson
Quinn Riffle
Tristan Sizemore

EUCHARIST THIS WEEK

Monday	8:00 a.m.	St. John
Friday	8:00 a.m.	St. John
Saturday	5:30 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 4:30-5:00 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

Therefore, let us celebrate the feast,
not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

(1 Corinthians 5:8, NAB-RE)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTES

- Time to return your *Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls*, and thank you for remembering those who are hungry in the world.
- **Family Resource Network Mobile Food Pantry** at BFD fire station in Green Bank is Wednesday (April 8) from 10-11:30 a.m. *Please remain in your vehicle and have your vehicle trunk or back empty and clean, to help us load quickly and safely.*



- **Community Dinner and Marlinton Care Team** planning meeting is this Thursday (April 9) at 6:00 p.m. at Marlinton Presbyterian Church. We welcome new volunteers and new ideas.

- **Easter** is celebrated by most Orthodox Churches and many Eastern-rite Catholic Churches next Sunday (April 12).



	LAST WEEKEND	
	<u>attendance</u>	<u>collection</u>
St. John Neumann	38	\$472.00
St. Mark the Evangelist	22	\$225.00
Flowers		\$20.00
St. Bernard of Clairvaux	14	\$205.00
Fund for the Poor		\$50.00
total	74	\$972.00

- **Save the date:** C.A.M.P. Wade (formerly the vicariate camp) is scheduled for June 7-13 this year in Huttonsville. All children aged 7-15 are welcome, and older teens and adults form the all-volunteer staff. Application forms are now available at our Churches and on-line. Our Churches in Pocahontas County are the official sponsors of C.A.M.P. Wade.



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EASTER SUNDAY- YEAR ABC

First Reading (Acts 10:34a, 37-43)

Peter proceeded to speak and said:
“You know what has happened all over Judea,
beginning in Galilee
after the baptism that John preached,
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth
with the Holy Spirit and power.
He went about doing good
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,
for God was with him.
We are witnesses of all that he did
both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.
They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.
This man God raised on the third day
and granted that he be visible,
not to all the people, but to us,
the witnesses chosen by God in advance,
who ate and drank with him
after he rose from the dead.
He commissioned us to preach to the people
and testify that he is the one appointed by God
as judge of the living and the dead.
To him all the prophets bear witness,
that everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23, *Grail translation, 1963*).

Response: This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love endures for ever.
Let the sons of Israel say:
“His love endures for ever.”

The Lord’s right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me.
The Lord’s right hand has triumphed;
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

Second Reading - a (Colossians 3:1-4)

Brothers and sisters:
If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above,
where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.
Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.
For you have died,

and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
When Christ your life appears,
then you too will appear with him in glory.

Second Reading - b (1 Corinthians 5:6b-8)

Brothers and sisters:
Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough?
Clear out the old yeast,
so that you may become a fresh batch of dough,
inasmuch as you are unleavened.
For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed.
Therefore, let us celebrate the feast,
not with the old yeast,
the yeast of malice and wickedness,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Sequence (*Victimae paschali laudes*)

Christians, to the Paschal Victim
Offer your thankful praises!
A Lamb the sheep redeems;
Christ, who only is sinless,
Reconciles sinners to the Father.
Death and life have contended
in that combat stupendous:
The Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal.
Speak, Mary, declaring
What you saw, wayfaring.
“The tomb of Christ, who is living,
The glory of Jesus’ resurrection;
bright angels attesting,
The shroud and napkin resting.
Yes, Christ my hope is arisen;
to Galilee he goes before you.”
Christ indeed from death is risen,
our new life obtaining.
Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!
Amen. Alleluia.

Gospel Acclamation (*cf.* 1 Corinthians 5:7b-8a)

Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed;
let us then feast with joy in the Lord.

Gospel (John 20:1-9)

On the first day of the week,
Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,
while it was still dark,
and saw the stone removed from the tomb.
So she ran and went to Simon Peter
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved,
and told them,
“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,

and we don't know where they put him.”
So Peter and the other disciple
went out and came to the tomb.
They both ran,
but the other disciple ran faster than Peter
and arrived at the tomb first;
he bent down and saw the burial cloths there,
but did not go in.
When Simon Peter arrived after him,
he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there,
and the cloth that had covered his head,
not with the burial cloths
but rolled up in a separate place.
Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,
and he saw and believed.
For they did not yet understand the Scripture
that he had to rise from the dead.

Reflection (2020)

“Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough?”
That is what St. Paul told the Corinthians. The Church in
Corinth was a difficult congregation, and Paul had to
constantly remind them what it was to be a follower of the
Lord Jesus, not only what they were to believe, but also
what they were to do. The image he uses to describe a
Christian is yeast, small in part, but large in effect. But to
have that effect, the Christian had to become a new person,
not malicious or wicked, but sincere and truthful.

That truth is Jesus Christ, and everything he taught.
And the greatest lesson he taught was to give of himself for
others – for us. That is what we celebrate at Easter. To be
a Christian is to do the same, to give of ourselves for others.

These days we see that giving of oneself in the people
who are on the front lines of serving the community during
the *Corona Virus* pandemic, and they do this despite risks
to their own safety. They have become the yeast that
inspires others, hopefully so that others will give of
themselves for others as well. The New Commandment,
the New Covenant, is based on that love of others.

Reflection (2021, 2022)

In today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we heard
Peter say: “we are witnesses (μάρτυρες, *Gk. martures*) of
all that he did.” The English word “martyr” is derived from
the Greek word for “witness.” We often think of a witness
as one who tells what he or she has seen. But the Biblical
sense is much deeper than that. A witness not only tells,
but expresses in his or her own life what was seen, and
believed, as in today's Gospel reading we heard that the
Apostle John “saw and believed.” In many ways, to
witness is to re-enact in one's life what is seen, to lay down
one's life for what is believed, as a martyr would do.

As believers, retelling to others all the events of this
Holy Week, our lives should also be a retelling: our
willingness to do for others the same way Jesus Christ did
for us.

Reflection (2023)

We have traveled from Palm Sunday, through Holy
Thursday and Good Friday, and arrived at Easter. Jesus
experienced acclaim, quickly followed by ridicule and
crucifixion. He witnessed his friends' assurances of
devotion, then their denial and betrayal.

How many of us have experiences in life that are
wonderful, followed by experiences that are anything but
wonderful? How many of us have experienced betrayal by
those we thought were closest to us?

But in all this, the end is Easter, a time of renewal,
reconciliation, redemption and resurrection. We can
choose to dwell on everything that is wrong or all the times
we have been wronged, but life is much more than that: life
is good, and there is so much good all around us, if we take
the time to notice.

Reflection (2024)

Peter said “You know what has happened all over Judea,
beginning in Galilee...” and he goes on to briefly tell about
Jesus' ministry. We have heard that time after time during
the readings at Mass. We know, or we should know. But
knowing isn't enough. We are called to “to preach to the
people” as Peter says, and to do it in our words and in our
actions.

Reflection (2025)

Christmas is a big celebration – of Christ coming to earth as
a human person. Easter is also a big celebration – although
over the years it has become less so than Christmas. At
Easter, we celebrate Christ rising from the dead, on his way
to going to heaven.

Sometimes, we focus too much on Christmas and too
much on our life on earth. Easter is a time we can focus
more on our life eventually in heaven – as St. Paul told the
Colossians “seek what is above.”

Reflection (2026)

Easter is the beginning of the new – that is why we
celebrate it during spring. And as St. Paul tells us “let us
celebrate the feast, not with the old yeast, the yeast of
malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of
sincerity and truth.”

There is so much malice and wickedness around us:
wars, violence, revenge, retaliation, retribution. But
we should be different, we *must* be different, because
of the resurrection of our Lord. We must be about
sincerity and truth, and all that flows from sincerity and
truth.

5 April 2026
Easter Sunday - ABC

Penitential Rite

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life: Lord, have.
Christ Jesus, you heal the sick: Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins: Lord, have mercy.
May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Prayer of the Faithful

Jesus is risen as he said. With firm faith, we lift one another up to the Father in prayer.

- for those who minister in the Church, that they will serve all those in need, we pray
- for political leaders everywhere, that they will replace malice and wickedness with sincerity and truth, we pray
- for peace in the Middle East, we pray
- for unity among Christians, we pray
- for all of us gathered today at Eucharist, that we will proclaim the Good News of the Risen Lord in our words and in our actions, we pray
- for those who have died, that they will be welcomed into the heavenly banquet, we pray
- and for your other intentions
(*pause*)
for all our intentions spoken and unspoken, we pray

Almighty Father, you led your people from slavery to freedom. Hear our prayers and raise us up to always follow you. Give us the grace to share with others what we ourselves have received, and to give of ourselves in this time of need, not just for those in our country, but for people throughout the world. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

2026 Sr. Joanne Wade C.A.M.P. (formerly Vicariate C.A.M.P.)

c/o Deacon Raymond Godwin and Amy Taylor

181 St. Brendan Way, Elkins WV 26241

304-636-0546(work) 304-642-2279(cell)

C.A.M.P. Registration Form

Sunday 7 June 2026: arrival and check in 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday 13 June 2026: departure and check out 10:00 a.m.

Ages 7-15

(camper name)

(date)

(address)

(city/town)

(state)

(zip code)

(home phone)

(e-mail)

(date of birth)

(sex)

(grade: as of June 2026)

(school)

(parish/mission)

(city/town)

(name for name tag)

(additional information concerning child)

(T-Shirt Size)

Office Use Only:

D _____

S _____

B _____

Medical Form _____

Detach and Mail to Address Above, Checks Made Payable to "C.A.M.P."

RATE: \$200.00 per camper: scholarships available for campers unable to pay the full amount. Families with more than one child attending will be given the special rate of \$100.00 for each additional child. A non-refundable deposit of \$50.00 per camper is due by 15 May 2026. Any registrations received after June 1 will be assessed a \$30.00 late fee and will be handled first come, first served. It is important for us to have an accurate count as early as possible, as preplanning for food, supplies, and space is vital.

MEDICAL FORM: Please send in the "Medical Form" with your registration form. You will need to include written proof of a current physical exam and date of last tetanus shot.

SCHOLARSHIPS: If you need assistance, we urge you to contact your pastor. This is the only way he will know you could use help. Money has been set aside for this purpose. We ask that you please pay what you can afford for the registration fee cost, and we will try to help with the rest.

DISCIPLINE POLICY: One of the aims of C.A.M.P. is to help young children develop self-discipline. If your child is not able to do that, you will be contacted during the week of C.A.M.P.

CAMPERS NEED TO BRING: 2 sheets, pillow, pillowcase, 2 blankets or sleeping bag, wash cloths, towels, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, long-sleeved sweater, jacket, underwear, pajamas, tennis shoes, hiking boots, heavy socks, blue jeans, swimming suit. Also recommended: Bible, flashlight, softball glove, tennis racket, laundry bag and pool shoes. All belongings should be clearly marked.

CAMPERS 13, 14, and 15 year-olds should also bring their own hiking backpack for the backpacking trip to Kumbrabow.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS will need to address their concerns with the camp directors prior to C.A.M.P.

CAMPERS ARE NOT TO BRING: Electronic equipment (including cell phones) or food of any kind. Snacks in the dorms attract animals. Please cooperate with us about this. **CAMPERS WILL NOT NEED MONEY FOR ANYTHING.**

Medical Form
Sr. Joanne Wade C.A.M.P. 2026

1. NAME _____ Age _____

(Last) (First) (MI)

2. Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Parent or Guardian Names _____

Emergency Phone _____

Alternate contact/Relationship _____

E-Mail Address: _____

1INSURANCE INFORMATION

I understand that all medical expenses incurred by my son / daughter are my responsibility and should be directed to the attention of my insurance carrier.

Insurance Company _____ Policy # _____

Name on Policy _____ Employer _____

2HEALTH HISTORY

Weight _____ Date of last physical exam _____ Date of last tetanus shot _____

Please CIRCLE any medical problems, explain in space provided.

Primary Physician: _____

Number: _____

HEART PROBLEMS

HEARING DIFFICULTIES

LEUKEMIA

CANCER

VISION PROBLEMS

HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER

SEIZURES

DIABETES

SLEEP PROBLEMS

HEMOPHILIA

ASTHMA

EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS

OTHER (SPECIFY)

EXPLANATIONS _____

Dentist: _____

Number: _____

Is the camper able to participate in all activities? _____

If no explain: _____

Will the camper be on medication

during C.A.M.P.? _____

***All Medications must be in the original container.

The child's name must be on over-the-counter or prescription medication.

List Medication: _____

ALLERGIES? (please specify and describe reactions) _____

1PARENT AUTHORIZATION

*I give permission for the camp nurse to provide general first aid to my child, and administer appropriate doses of the following over-the-counter medications if needed: (INITIAL those that apply)

____ Tylenol ____ Motrin ____ Benadryl ____ Pepto-Bismol ____ Cough /Sore throat Preparations

*Should my son / daughter need medical care beyond that provided at camp (doctor or emergency room visit), I authorize the C.A.M.P. authorities to act on my behalf.

(Parent or guardian signature required): _____