

Dear Padre,

I was taught that it is a requirement to fast at least one hour before receiving Communion. However, I've seen donuts out before Mass begins and hear candy wrappers being crumpled around me. This seems disrespectful to me.



It is important to use the correct words when describing a particular action. In this case, "requirement" does not really capture the full meaning and understanding of what the Church teaches. A better understanding is that it is a discipline and a practice of the Church to ordinarily observe the eucharistic fast for one hour before receiving holy Communion. If you are of a certain age, you may remember that there have been changes regarding the eucharistic fast. A "requirement" might suggest that the fast is integral to the sacrament itself. It is not.

The second part of your question seems to be a matter of perception. Based on your perception, you judge something to be not quite right. But, consider that there are many reasons why hospitality may be set up before Mass. The crumpling of wrappers could be something other than what you identify. Regardless, you are not required to assume the burden of policing what is taking place at Mass. It is much better to participate, celebrate, and be grateful for the sacrament that we gather to experience as a community of faith. ●

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
February 23	February 24	February 25	February 26	February 27	February 28	March 1
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Second Sunday of Lent
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18	Is 55:10-11	Jon 3:1-10	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25	Ez 18:21-28	Dt 26:16-19	Gn 2:1-4a 2 Tm 1:8b-10 Mt 17:1-9
Mt 25:31-46	Mt 6:7-15	Lk 11:29-32	Mt 7:7-12	Mt 5:20-26	Mt 5:43-48	

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Today, signs of hope are increasingly found in care homes, communities for minors, centers for listening and acceptance, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and low-income schools. How many of these quiet signs of hope often go unnoticed and yet are so important for setting aside our indifference and inspiring others to become involved in various forms of volunteer work!

MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY OF THE POOR, ROME, JUNE 13, 2025

Liguori Catholic, Pastoral, Truist, © 2026 Liguori Publications. Inprint Prices: Fr. Kevin Zuber, CSsR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists, Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com. No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from *The New American Bible, Revised Edition* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. Visit Liguori.org or call 800-375-9521.

MERKEL ANGUS

HIGH QUALITY FREEZER BEEF

1/2 & WHOLE
TXT BRIAN AT
217-820-8075
FOR PRICE & AVAILABILITY

Moore Funeral Homes



Edward Jones

Angela Momot, AAMS™
Financial Advisor
326 East High Street
Potosi, MO 63664
Bus. 573-436-8908 • Fax 877-702-3380
TF 877-747-0145
angela.momot@edwardjones.com
California Insurance License OC24309

CHRIS ROLWES

(314) 852 7471
ROLWESPLUMBING@GMAIL.COM

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

LICENSED ● BONDED ● INSURED

“Take courage! Without fear! Many times in the Gospel Jesus says: ‘Do not be afraid.’ We need to be courageous in the witness we give, with the world and above all with life: giving life, serving, sometimes with great sacrifices in order to live out this very mission.”

Pope Leo XIV

Still looking for bulletin advertisers! There is room! Let's get this page filled up! Our goal is to get 10 advertisers. Cost is \$180/year.

St. James Catholic Church

201 N. Missouri Street

Potosi, MO 63664

First Sunday of Lent

February 22, 2026



(Photo courtesy of Jeremy Boyer)

E-MAIL:
stjameschurch@centurylink.net

WEBSITE:
www.stjames-potosi.org

FACEBOOK: St. James Catholic Church

PHONE NUMBER: 573-438-4686

PSR: Phone: 573-366-5235
stjamespsr@gmail.com

Mass Schedule February 2026

Mon: 8:00 AM (St. Joachim)

Tues: 8:15 AM (St. James)

Wed: 8:15 AM (St. Joachim)

Thurs: 8:00 AM (St. James)

Fri: 8:00 AM (St. Joachim)

Sat: 8:00 AM (1st Sat. of the Month @ St. James)

Saturday: 4:00 PM
(1st & 3rd weekend @ St. James; 2nd & 4th weekend @ St. Joachim)

Sunday: 8:00 AM (St. James)
10:00 AM (St. Joachim)

Confessions:

Saturday: 3:15-3:45pm
Prior to Sat. evening Mass or by appointment



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Feb 23
@ St. Joachim

Tuesday, Feb 24:
Bob Short

Wednesday, Feb 25
@ St. Joachim

Thursday, Feb 26:
Raymond J. DeGonia

Friday, Feb 27:
6:30pm:
For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood

Saturday, Feb 28
@ St. Joachim

Sunday, March 1:
Beverly Sampson

St. James Parish Family

201 N. Missouri Street
Potosi, MO 63664



March 1st

Lector:

Saturday 4pm:
Sunday 10am: Danny Mueller

Eucharistic Ministers:

Saturday 4pm	Sunday 10am
C:	Marvin Wright
L:	Kim Coleman
R:	Maureen Mills

Servers

Saturday 4pm:
Sunday 10am: Meadow Henson

Music:

Sat: 4:00pm. Chala Short
Sun. 8:00am Rebecca Richards
Sun: 10:00am Anita Govero or The Little Way Band

Heavenly Dusters

Diane Mull 2/27-3/6
Diane Mull 3/13-3/20
Jeanne DeGonia 3/27-4/3

Altar Linens

Bobbie Heifner 3/2
Diane McGirl 3/9
Bobbie Heifner 3/16
Diane McGirl 3/23

Money Counters

Pat & Tina 2/24
Rhonda Politte & Pat Portell 3/3
Becky & Rhonda 3/10
Jeanne & Rhonda 3/17
(I am in the office on Monday's for anyone who wants to count on that day. I do go to Mass @ St. Joachim first before coming in to the office.)

Staff

**Rev. Anthony Dattilo-
Pastor**
AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org
Phone: 573-436-0580 (St. Joachim Rectory)

**Rev. Vince Nyman-
Associate Pastor**
Phone: 314-614-0718

Angie Mitchell
Office Manager (part-time)

Vicki Thurmond
Parish Secretary (part-time)
stjameschurch@centurylink.net

Judy East: Custodian

Tommy Roy: On Call Maintenance

St. James PSR
Dr. Melissa Cordia
Co-Coordinator
Laura Allen
Co-Coordinator
Jamie Thompson
Co-Coordinator
stjamespsr@gmail.com

Weekly Collection 02/08/26

<u>Envelopes:</u>	1145.00
<u>Loose:</u>	162.00
<u>Online Giving</u>	135.00
<u>Maintenance:</u>	50.00
<u>St. Vincent de Paul:</u>	102.00
<u>Votives:</u>	34.00
<u>Black & Native American</u>	109.00

Total Giving: \$1737.00
of Contributors: 22
Thank you for your generosity!



February 22, 2026 1st Sunday of Lent

"It is written: 'The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.'"
Matthew 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other "gods" we have put before God.

Lenten Bible Study

Session 3: The Eucharist
Session 4: The Sacrament of Confession
Session 5: Mary
Session 6: Justification
Session 7: Who is Jesus?

Here are the dates for the study. Keep in mind that because of scheduling issues (availability of the buildings and my schedule) not all sessions will be in order each week. So, if you plan to jump around, please watch the schedule and attend when you are able.

MONDAY 6PM (ST. JOACHIM)

Session 3) March 9; Session 4) March 23; Session 5) March 30; Session 6 & 7) Justification & Who is Jesus

WEDNESDAY 9:15AM (ST. JOACHIM)

Session 3) March 11; Session 4) March 25; Session 5) April 1; Session 6 & 7) April 8

FRIDAY 9AM (ST. JAMES)

Session 2) Feb 27; Session 3) March 13; Session 4) March 27; Session 5) April 3; Session 6 & 7) April 10

**If you have any questions, please text or call Vicki at 573-854-1257

St. James Ladies Sodality



You're invited to our Dine In & Carry Out Fish Fry. Our menu will consist of Fried Shrimp or Swai fillets. We will also have coleslaw, stewed tomatoes, baked beans, mac n cheese, and hushpuppies.

WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

- Golden fried fish & shrimp
- Refreshing drinks
- homemade desserts



COST
ADULTS: \$15
KIDS: \$8

DATES: FEBRUARY 27TH
MARCH 27TH
4pm-until Sellout

PRESENTED BY ST. JAMES KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

FRY DAY FRIDAYS

February 20th
March 6th 11:00-1:00
March 20th

\$12/PLATE
FISH, BAKED BEANS, & POTATO SALAD

201 N. Missouri Street Potosi MO 63664

The KC Men have added an additional date to the calendar: **March 13th from 11-1 (Drive Thru only)!** Mark your calendars!

Ladies Sodality will have a

BAKE SALE

At all of the Men's Fish Fries
Feb 20
March 6
March 20

\$4/slice or \$20/whole cake or pie



Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 22, 2026
 First Sunday of Lent (A)
 Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 / Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 / Matthew 4:1-11



"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil."

MATTHEW 4:1



Jesus for the Win

MIGUEL DULICK

The account of the temptations could be presented as a comical play. Pope Francis insisted, "Don't talk to the devil!" Indeed, Jesus does not engage in dialogue with Satan, much less any negotiation or any business. Stones become bread? Jesus may have fasted for forty days, but he's had plenty to eat—"every word that comes forth from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). Nor will Jesus "test" his Father by jumping off the "parapet of the temple" (like the bell tower of a gothic church). (See Matthew 5-7) You don't play God, and you don't play with God. Satan really beclowns himself with the last temptation—promising the whole world if Jesus would just take a knee? No one would fall for that, would they?

Except—most of us. We'd do the bread; we'd do the jump; we'd definitely do the world! Look at the first reading, from Genesis. Adam and Eve give up paradise for a piece of fruit! It's a sad story because Eve does chat with the serpent, answering questions, allowing for a different point of view. But, as they say on Facebook, Satan "destroys" her! And Adam, too. If they didn't sew fig leaves for each other, the whole story would be unbearable. Even as they realize their sin, there is a little tenderness.

Saint Paul explains it clearly. Sin entered the world, but with Jesus Christ, there is an "overflow" of grace for the many. (See Romans 5:15) And that's what Lent is about—a flood of grace. ●

Reflect

What grace do I pray for this Lent—for myself and for someone who is struggling?

© 2026 LIGLORI FLBL CATIONS • A MINISTRY OF THE REDEMPTORISTS • IMAGE: MAXIM IBRAGIMOV / SHUTTERSTOCK



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

CONFESSION DATES AND TIMES

- March 4th- St. Joachim PSR family Confessions at 6 p.m.
- March 18th- St. James PSR family Confessions- 6 p.m.
- March 19th- St. Joachim Confessions 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- March 31st- St. James Confessions 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

"REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE DUST



AND TO DUST YOU SHALL RETURN"

LENT PRAY 40

ON HALLOW

THE COUNCIL'S CORNER

Our next meeting is March 10 @ 5:30pm. Our next Fifth Sunday brunch is March 29th after 10am Mass. Mark your calendar now! *IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ERIC AUBUCHON @ 314-605-6268*

"Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors to Christ."
 Pope John Paul II, Inaugural Homily

St. James PSR NEWS

Rice Bowls were sent home with the kids on Ash Wednesday. There will be more available in the back of church for those families that do not have kiddos in PSR. All bowls need to be returned after Easter.

From Dr. Melissa Cordia

Ladies Sodality

Our next meeting is on March 3rd from 5:30pm-6:30pm in the Parish Hall. We have elected new officers. Our new President is Bobbie Heifner, Vice-President is Kim Coleman, Secretary is Laura Allen, and Treasurer is Diane McGirl. We will be hosting Indoor Dining Fish Fries on February 27th and March 27th, serving beginning at 4pm until sell out. Please mark your calendars. We are also selling raffle tickets for a queen sized quilt. See a member for chances.

SAVE-THE-DATE

CATHOLIC WOMEN FOR CHRIST CONFERENCE

Light of Life

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (JOHN 8: 12)

March 21, 2026
 9:00am-3:00pm
 St Commons at SLUH
 4970 Oakland Ave

Catholic Women for Christ is back for 2026! Join us on Saturday, March 21, 2026, at St Commons at St. Louis University High School with ladies from around the Archdiocese of St. Louis for a day of spiritual talks, prayer, and community. We will explore the theme "Light of Life" and discuss how we see the Light, walk in the Light, and become the Light. To register and for more information, visit www.catholicwomenforchrist.org

"Seek a relationship when you pray, not answers. You won't always find answers, but you will always find Jesus."

Fr. Mike Schmitz



Parish Calendar

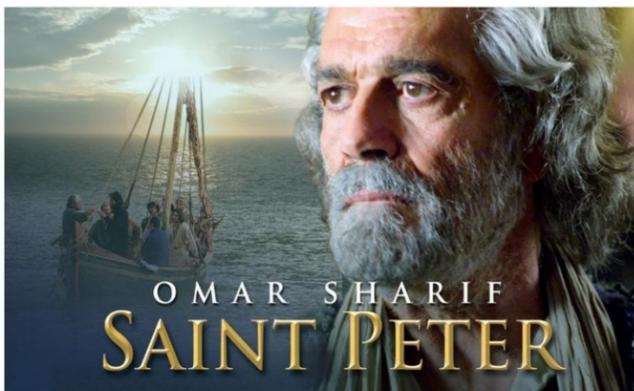
- Feb 26: Parish Picnic Meeting 6pm (Parish Hall)
- Feb 27: Mass at 6:30pm with Stations of the Cross following Mass.
- Feb 27: Ladies Sodality Fish Fry Dinner (Parish Hall) Dine-In & Carryout:4pm-Sellout
- March 2: Men's Faith Sharing Group 6:30pm
- March 3: Ladies Sodality Meeting 5:30pm
- March 6: Fish Fry 11-1 Drive Thru Only Ladies Sodality Bake Sale 11-1
- March 10: KC Men's Meeting 6:30pm
- March 11: The office will have a delayed opening at 11:00 (Vicki has bible study at St. Joachim)
- March 13: KC Men's Fish Fry 11-1 Ladies Sodality Bake Sale 11-1
- March 13: Clarity House 6pm
- March 13: Mass at 6:30pm w/Stations of the Cross following Mass.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry served 127 families (356 individuals). Thanks again to our packers and those who braved the cold weather on Distribution day!

"God demands first the heart. . . then the work."
 St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul collection:
 Canned meat, canned chili w/meat, SpaghettiOs w/ meat, canned stew, tuna



formed Forming Catholics for Life.

Saint Peter

Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you! Simply scan the QR code or visit formed.org/signup to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

This Week On Formed

Foretold

From the beginning, God had a plan to save man from sin. With Jesus, that plan was fulfilled. But he also has a specific plan for you. Watch Foretold to rediscover God's providential love for you.

Saint Peter

Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.

St. Polycarp | Catholic Saints

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Mary McGeehan as they dive into the life of St. Polycarp, a second century bishop and martyr. St. Polycarp was a student of St. John the Apostle, defended the faith against early heresies, and offered his life like Christ as a martyr.

*Go to <http://signup.formed.org>

*Enter our parish's zip code 63664

*Enter your name and your email address.

*Enjoy!

MONDAY
February 23
Lenten Weekday
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18
Mt 25:31-46

TUESDAY
February 24
Lenten Weekday
Is 55:10-11
Mt 6:7-15

WEDNESDAY
February 25
Lenten Weekday
Jon 3:1-10
Lk 11:29-32

THURSDAY
February 26
Lenten Weekday
Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25
Mt 7:7-12

FRIDAY
February 27
Lenten Weekday
Ez 18:21-28
Mt 5:20-26

SATURDAY
February 28
Lenten Weekday
Dt 26:16-19
Mt 5:43-48

SUNDAY
March 1
Second Sunday of Lent
Gn 2:1-4a
2 Tm 1:8b-10
Mt 17:1-9

Good News!

February 22, 2026
First Sunday of Lent (A)

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 /
Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 / Matthew 4:1-11

MIGUEL DULICK

The account of the temptations could be presented as a comical play. Pope Francis insisted, "Don't talk to the devil!" Indeed, Jesus does not engage in dialogue with Satan, much less any negotiation or any business. Stones become bread? Jesus may have fasted for forty days, but he's had plenty to eat—"every word that comes forth from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). Nor will Jesus "test" his Father by jumping off the "parapet of the temple" (like the bell tower of a gothic church). (See Matthew 5-7.) You don't play God, and you don't play with God. Satan really beclowns himself with the last temptation—promising the whole world if Jesus would just take a knee? No one would fall for that, would they?

Except—most of us. We'd do the bread; we'd do the jump; we'd definitely do the world! Look at the first reading, from Genesis. Adam and Eve give up paradise for a piece of fruit! It's a sad story because Eve does chat with the serpent, answering questions, allowing for a different point of view. But, as they say on Facebook, Satan "destroys" her! And Adam, too. If they didn't sew fig leaves for each other, the whole story would be unbearable. Even as they realize their sin, there is a little tenderness.

Saint Paul explains it clearly. Sin entered the world, but with Jesus Christ, there is an "overflow" of grace for the many. (See Romans 5:15.) And that's what Lent is about—a flood of grace. ●

© 2026 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Potest: Fr. Kevin Zubal, CSsR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists. Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com. No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from The New American Bible, Revised Edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. Visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

Interested in Becoming Catholic? (OCIA: Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, in being fully received, or in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, contact the parish office, or call coordinator, Joyce Politte 636-328-1343. All are welcome.

Our catechumens Anthony Pashia & Judy Vance along with our Candidates, Lilly Pashia and Chris McCoy will be attending the Rite of Election at the Cathedral Basilica on February 21, 2026. Please pray for them as they take this next big step on their faith journey.

NEW ONLINE GIVING PORTAL STEPS

<https://giving.servantkeeper.com/StJamesCatholic/member/login>

01



Scan QR Code

Our QR Code will take you directly to our custom giving page

02



Sign up/Sign in

If you haven't yet created a donor login, this is your chance! Login if you already have.

03



Donate!

You can now process a donation, and set up your recurring donation!

Pope Leo XIV, General Audience: February 18, 2026

Dear brothers and sisters,

In our continuing catechesis on the Second Vatican Council, we have reflected upon various aspects of Divine Revelation. In particular, we have seen how God chose to reveal himself, making known the loving mystery of his divine plan to unite all people to him through his Son, Jesus Christ. Indeed, it is only within this mystery that we can understand both the origin and the mission of the Church. In this light, we turn today to consider Lumen Gentium, the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, which presents the Church as both a sign and an instrument of this plan of salvation. A sign because the Church community makes the unity established by Christ through his Cross and Resurrection visible to the world today. An instrument because it is through the Church that God achieves his goal of uniting people to himself and bringing them together. As we journey through a world still marked by division, let us ask the Lord to continue to guide his Church in the mission of sanctification and reconciliation.

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/audiences/2026/documents/20260218-udienza-generale.html>

2026 Parish Picnic
Mark Your Calendars: June 7th

Our next meeting is Thursday February 26th, 6:00 in the Parish Hall. We are in need of volunteers for all areas. Please join us at the meeting for more information.

Parish Family; The Bottle Game was a HUGE Success last year!! So, we are planning it again this year!

It's not too early to start this year with planning for the Picnic... "the Bottle Game" is back. We are asking all to bring a "bottle of...?" (examples; shampoo, wine, ketchup, mustard, pickles, lotion, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, syrup, 2 liter soda, honey, jelly, vanilla, cooking oil, etc.) that we will use for this fundraiser. The way this will work is, we will sell the same number of "chances" that we have for the number of "bottles" that we receive, the tickets will be numbered, the bottles will be numbered, each ticket will cost \$3 to purchase, so you can see that this will be a good fundraiser for the church, just think you might end up with a bottle of! We would ask that you please make sure when you are making your purchase for these items to please check the expiration date on any perishable food items.

We will put 3 boxes/containers in the back of church, not in the vestibule – under the pew in front of the cry room for all to place their bottles in. It's not too early to start collecting, so bring your bottles.

Thank you all for your support of our Parish!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS **LENTE FISH FRY**
OLD MINES, MO
FISH FRY'S

We will be serving February 18TH (Ash Wednesday), February 20TH, March 6TH, March 20TH, & April 3rd (Good Friday)

Serving 3 p.m. till Sold Out with Dine-in, Carry-Out, & Call In Available.

Serving: Fish, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Fries, & Hushpuppies. Dessert & Drink Included
\$13 per Plate

FOLLOW ME AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN *AND I WILL FISHERS OF MATTHEW 4:19*