

# Dear Padre,

## Why are there different stories about Jesus' resurrection?

As a whole, the New Testament is a testimonial to the resurrection. About twenty years after Jesus' death, St. Paul offers the earliest written reference to the resurrection. (See 1 Thessalonians 1:10.) All four gospels tell the story of Jesus, who was crucified, rose from the dead, and appeared to his disciples. However, the evangelists incorporated elements that were handed on orally, and they presented them in their own style to address the particular needs and cultural backgrounds of their readers. Each author attempted to express the inexpressible resurrection within the limits of language, and they selectively highlighted or omitted material for theological purposes. If minor details vary among the writers—such as the number of women or angels at Christ's tomb—these variations are consistent with the nature of eyewitness accounts and recorded events as they are remembered. Divergent accounts are not false accounts. Despite discrepancies, the objective of the authors remained uncompromised: the identity of the historical Jesus of Nazareth is now the risen Lord of All. (See Acts 10:34–43.) Moreover, the authors wanted to convey this fundamental truth: Jesus Christ's defeat of death by his resurrection is central to our Christian hope and is the assurance of our own resurrection! Guided by the Holy Spirit, the gospels' resurrection accounts have inspired believers for 2,000 years—for “if Christ has not been raised, then...empty, too, your faith” (1 Corinthians 15:14). ●



VLADIS CHURN / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron J. Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
April 20	April 21	April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	St. Mark, Evangelist	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	1 Pt 5:5b–14	Acts 2:14a, 36–41
Jn 6:22–29	Jn 6:30–35	Jn 6:35–40	Jn 6:44–51	Jn 6:52–59	Mk 16:15–20	1 Pt 2:20b–25
						Jn 10:1–10



ALESSIA PIERDOMENICO / SHUTTERSTOCK

### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

**The Church is brokenhearted at the cry of pain rising from places devastated by war.... We must never get used to war!... For this reason, in the name of human dignity and international law, I reiterate to those in positions of responsibility the frequent warning of...Pope Pius XII: “Nothing is lost with peace. Everything may be lost with war.”**

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, JUNE 18, 2025

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter (A)

Acts 2:14, 22–33 / 1 Peter 1:17–21 / Luke 24:13–35



The two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

LUKE 24:35

## Three Basic Rules

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

**T**he Emmaus story is about two disciples walking seven miles from Jerusalem to a village called Emmaus and their encounter with Jesus, whom they did not recognize. The story is rich in both symbolism and meaning. In a nutshell, it teaches us three basic rules for the formation of Christian community: *Welcome the stranger. Break open the word. Celebrate the Eucharist.* When we are faithful to these practices, we are faithful to the promise of the kingdom in our midst. If we choose to ignore these basic rules, we should not be surprised that we seem to be struggling.

Three out of three rules set the baseline. We cannot congratulate ourselves if we follow one or two of them

well enough and ignore the third. We cannot pick and choose. It is the Lord who sets the parameters; our mission is only to respond positively in faith to what he directs us to do.

How are we doing? An honest appraisal probably suggests that improvement is needed. Each of our local communities, and indeed even the wider Church, sometimes struggles to form an Emmaus community of faith. We know we can do better. The good news is that we are not uninformed, and we know where we need to place the most effort. The Holy Spirit of God will show us how we need to apply this renewed effort. ●

### Reflect

**Where does my family and parish need improvement to form a genuinely faithful Emmaus community?**



# St. Paul Catholic Church

713 CRAWFORD STREET  
VICKSBURG, MS 39180

3rd Sunday of Easter  
April 18 & 19, 2026



# St. Paul Catholic Church

713 CRAWFORD STREET  
VICKSBURG, MS 39180

3rd Sunday of Easter  
April 18 & 19, 2026

### Parish Announcements

#### Anointing Mass

There will be an Anointing Mass on Tuesday, April 21 at 12:00 PM.

#### Lunch and Scripture

April 22 at 12:00 PM.  
Speaker: Kevin Mahoney  
Topic: The Book of James  
Location: Billy's; pizza and salad lunch will be provided by St. Paul; donations are greatly appreciated. RSVP by calling 601-636-0140 or replying to the St. Paul Facebook Lunch and Scripture post.

#### Confirmation

Confirmation will be held on Wednesday, April 22 at 6:00 PM with Bishop Kopaz. All are welcome.

#### Mass Intentions

Fr. Rusty offers intentions for every Mass. If you would like to request a Mass Intention for a daily Mass or Saturday Vigil Mass, Please call, email, or visit the parish office.

#### Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to have flowers placed in front of the Ambo in memory of a loved one, the following weekends are still available: September 12 & 13, October 10 & 11, and October 17 & 18. To schedule, contact Cynthia Montalbono.

#### Confession Time Change

Due to an increase of people taking part in confession, the times for confession have been adjusted to accommodate more people. The new times are Saturday, 2:30-3:30 PM and Sunday, 9:30-10:00 AM. Please note that times end 15 minutes earlier than before.

#### Save the Date

Vacation Bible School will be June 23-25 at St. Michael Catholic Church. For more information please contact Mimi Mitchell. [Mimi.mitchell@vicksburgcatholic.org](mailto:Mimi.mitchell@vicksburgcatholic.org)

### Offertory Summary

Weekly Budget.....\$7,700

#### Online Giving

Apr 6 - Apr 12 ..... \$1,520

#### Weekend Offertory

Mar 28 & 29.....\$3,319

Apr 4 & 5 .....\$8,825

Apr 11 & 12.....\$2,846

Apr 18 & 19.....\$ , \_\_\_\_

Apr 25 & 26.....\$ , \_\_\_\_

### Special Collections

April 2: Rice Bowl.....\$555

April 3: Holy Land.....\$50



Sign up for automatic online giving at [www.osvhub.com/st-paulscatholic-church](http://www.osvhub.com/st-paulscatholic-church)

### Knights of Columbus

<https://facebook.com/kc898>

[www.ms-kofc.com/898](http://www.ms-kofc.com/898)

Become a KNIGHT. Scan this QR code to join the Knights today!



APR 21 Rosary @ 6:30 PM followed by 4th Degree Meeting

APR 28 Rosary @ 6:30 PM followed by Recruitment & Retention Social

MAY 2 Meals on Wheels 8-11AM

### Weekend Mass Schedule†

#### Saturday

#Confession 2:30-3:30 PM

Mass 4:00 PM

#### Sunday

#Confession 9:30-10:00 AM

Mass 10:30 AM

### Daily Mass Schedule†

Monday 7:00 AM

Tuesday 12:00 PM

Wednesday 7:00 AM

Thursday 12:00 PM

Friday 7:00 AM

† All schedule updates can be found in the Parish Calendar section of the bulletin.

‡ For Confessions during the week, please call the Parish Office.

### Mass Intentions

APR 20, MON

APR 21, TUES Special Intentions

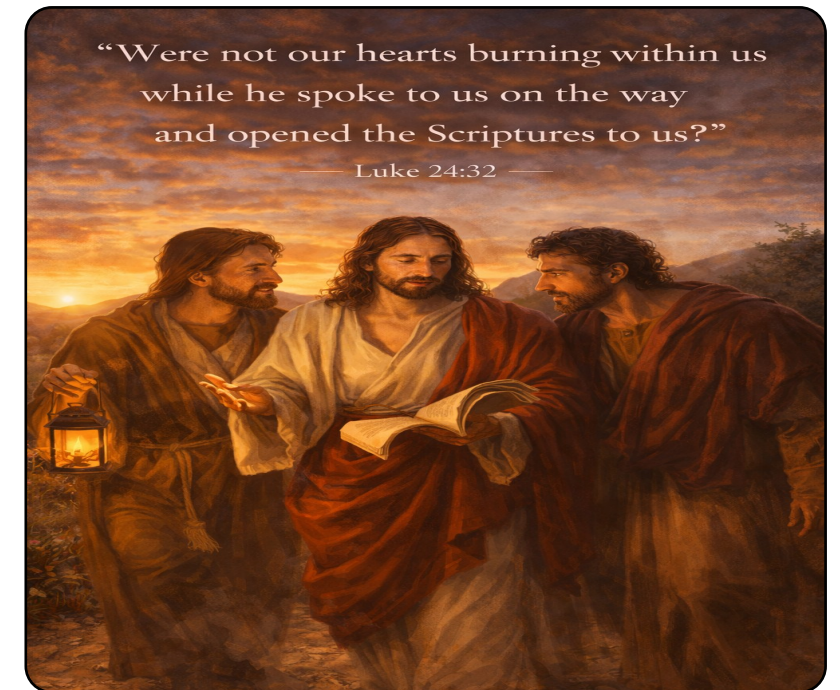
APR 22, WED

APR 23, THUR Jimmy Kendrick, Deceased

APR 24, FRI

APR 25, SAT Special Intentions

To request a Mass Intention for a Daily Mass or the Saturday Vigil Mass, please call, email, or visit the parish office. \*Sunday Mass is offered for all St. Paul's parishioners.



### Today's Readings

Visit [bible.usccb.org](http://bible.usccb.org) or scan this QR code to find the readings



### Check out our Social Media!



St. Paul Catholic Church

### Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers placed at the Ambo are in memory of Mary Louise Gamble Harris

### Pastoral Care

If you or a loved one is hospitalized or in urgent need of anointing, please call the church office Emergency Ext 106

### Parish Calendar

APR 19, SUN	Children's Church: Led by Bert Winschel
APR 20, MON	Offertory Counters: Jan Jackson & Paul Banchetti
APR 21, TUES	Anointing Mass 12 PM
APR 22, WED	Lunch & Scripture 12 PM. Confirmation 6 PM
MAY 2, SAT	Meals on Wheels
MAY 3, SUN	First Communion

### St. Paul Parish Staff

<b>Pastor</b> Fr. Rusty Vincent	<b>Office Manager</b> Ashley Roesch	<b>Office Assistant</b> Janis Koestler
<b>Bookkeeper</b> Beverly Connelly	<b>Maintenance</b> Charles Hahn	<b>Organist</b> Karen Harrison

### Leadership & Ministries

<b>Parish Council President</b> Travis Thornell	<b>Finance Council Chair</b> Bill Fulcher	
<b>Bereavement</b> Story Ebersole	<b>RCIA</b> Connie and David Hosemann, and Bruce Ebersole	<b>Meals On Wheels</b> Jan Jackson, Christy Guizerix, and Rae Perry
<b>Altar Flowers</b> Cynthia Montalbono	<b>Homebound</b> Janis Koestler	<b>Children's Church</b> Ashley Lawrence
<b>Baptism Prep</b> Barbara Hill	<b>Confirmation</b> Jordan Amborn	