

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. ●

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



FINUDA DEMIRKAYA / SHUTTERSTOCK

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

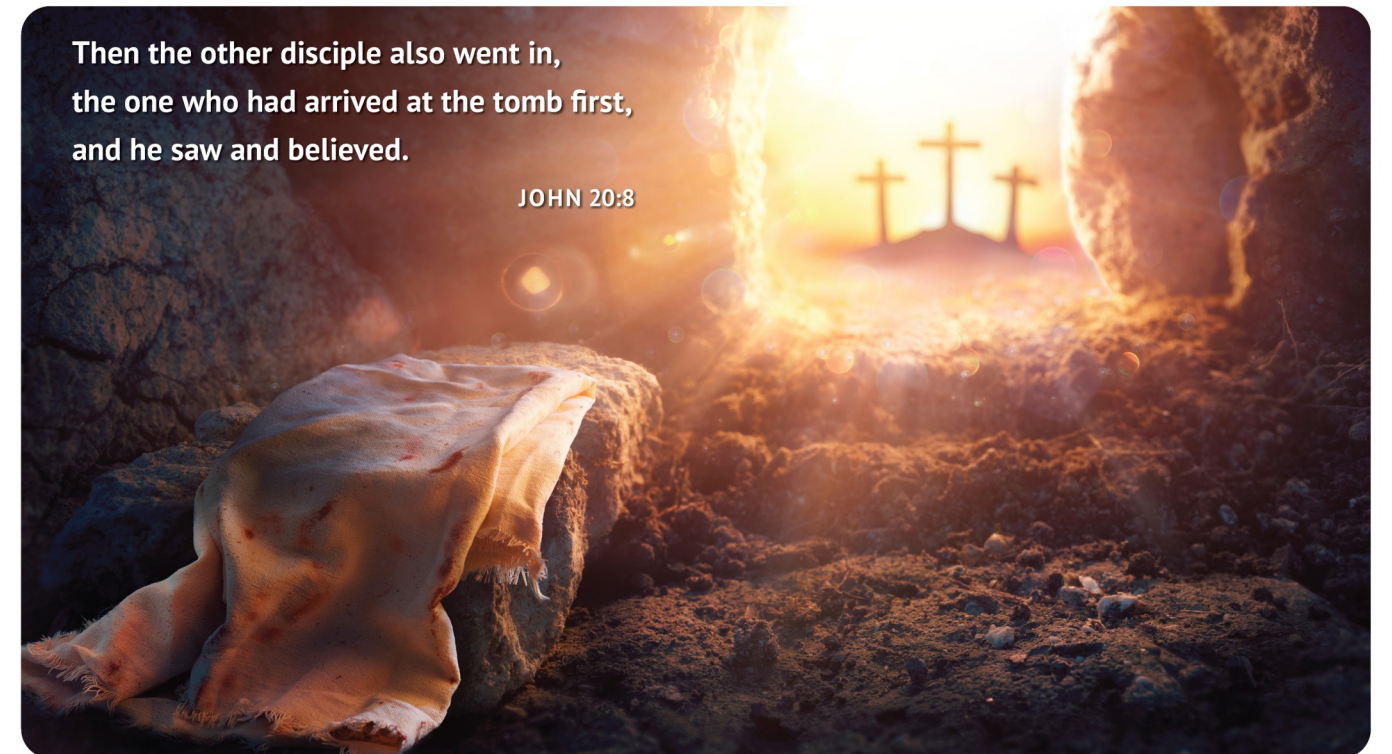
The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles follows the story of the centurion Cornelius, the first prominent pagan convert. (His story is fascinating—take time to read it this week.) Peter gives a speech including a kind of catechism that had been standardized in a formula repeated at least six 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



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St. Paul Catholic Church

713 CRAWFORD STREET
VICKSBURG, MS 39180

Easter Sunday
April 4 & 5, 2026



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Parish Announcements

Office Closed

The office will be closed Monday, April 6 and Tuesday, April 7 for the Easter holiday. There will be no daily Mass on these days.

Farrell Hall Cleaning Day

Join us for a cleaning day at Farrell Hall on Saturday, April 18 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Any time that you can give would be helpful. Supplies will be provided.

Adoration

Please join us on Wednesday, April 8 at 5:30 PM for Eucharistic Adoration and Liturgy of the Hours.

Alumni

On April 11, at the 4:00 PM Mass, we are pleased to welcome back the alumni of Vicksburg Catholic School to St. Paul.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

The Men's Prayer Breakfast will be Sunday, April 12, at 8:00 AM. Breakfast will be served.

Confession Time Change

Due to an increase in 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, 9:00-9:30 AM. Please note that these times end 15 minutes earlier than before.

Anointing Mass

The Anointing Mass will be Tuesday, April 14, at 12:00 PM.

Offertory Summary

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

Online Giving

Mar 23 - Mar 29.....\$1,575

Weekend Offertory

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

Apr 4 & 5\$, _

Apr 11 & 12.....\$, _

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

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

Special Collections

April 2: Rice Bowl.....\$, _

April 3: Holy Land.....\$, _



Sign up for automatic online giving at www.osvhub.com/st-paulscatholic-church

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 6, MON No Daily Mass

APR 7, TUES No Daily Mass

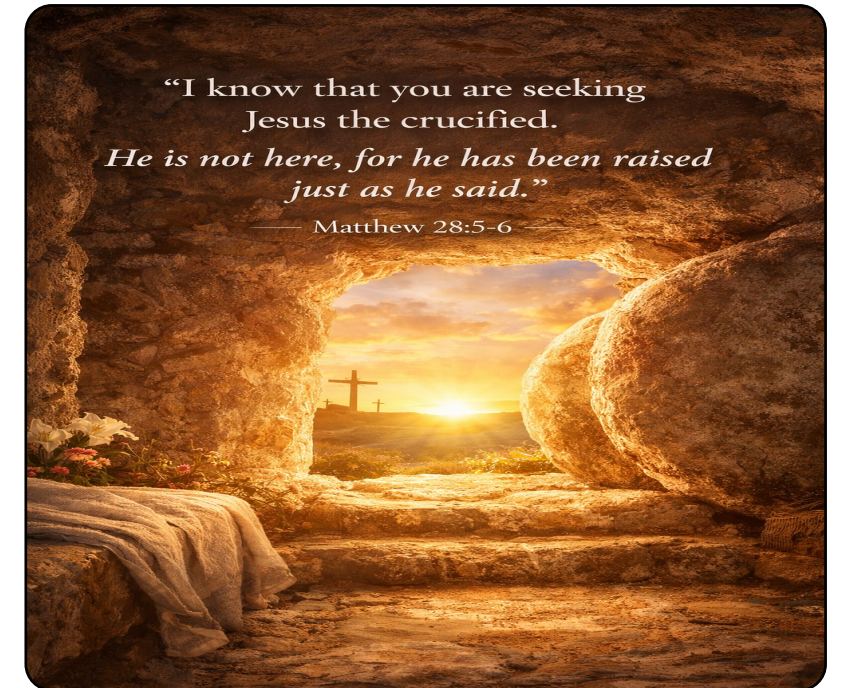
APR 8, WED Special Intentions

APR 9, THUR Dr. Ronald Kasper, Deceased

APR 10, FRI Marilyn Hall, Deceased

APR 11, SAT Alumni of VCS

To request a Mass Intention for a Daily Mass or the Saturday Vigil Mass, please call, email, or visit the parish office. Each Mass with no intention is offered for all St. Paul's parishioners.



Today's Readings

Visit bible.usccb.org or scan this QR code to find the readings



Check out our Social Media!



St. Paul Catholic Church

Sanctuary Flowers

Thank you to all who donated towards flowers for Easter and to the Ivy Place for decorating.

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 4, SAT	Meals on Wheels
APR 5, SUN	Children's Church: Will not meet
APR 6, MON	Office Closed. No Daily Mass
APR 7, TUES	Office Closed. No Daily Mass
APR 8, WED	Adoration 5:30 PM
APR 14, TUES	Anointing Mass 12 PM

Knights of Columbus

<https://facebook.com/kc898>

www.ms-kofc.com/898

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



APR 7 Rosary @ 6:30 PM followed by Council meeting

APR 9 Ladies' Auxiliary Meeting @ 6:00 PM

APR 14 Rosary @ 6:30 PM followed by Recruitment & Retention

St. Paul Parish Staff

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

Leadership & Ministries

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