

Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic Church

1003 North Tyler Street - Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

"Encounter Jesus, Serve Others."



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E-mail: office@holysouls.org • **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/OLHSAR

Church Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

School: (501) 663-4513 • **Cafeteria:** (501) 663-6125 • **Extended Care:** (501) 663-7438

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 20, 2022



8 Week Bible Study

Many Catholics want to read the Bible but get bogged down by the long stretches that seem not to make sense or get lost among the sea of Old Testament names and places. *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible*, an eight-part Bible study, helps you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture, so you can get the "big picture" of the Bible and understand what it's all about. Aided by a unique color-coded *Bible Timeline™* Chart that arranges the key people, places, and events of the Bible in chronological order, *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* will help you pick up the Bible with confidence and understand how you fit into God's plan.

Holy Souls Parish will begin the *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* study on Tuesday, April 5th at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship. To register go to <https://forms.gle/wsvXCq1xUj1CzrZD9> or for more information contact Samantha Minster at sminster@holysouls.org. The deadline to sign up is March 21. Cost is \$25.

PLEASE JOIN THE LENTEN MISSION AT HOLY SOULS

BECOMING PEOPLE OF THE Word

MARCH 28-30, 2022

6:30 P.M. IN THE CHURCH



STEPHEN J. BINZ

NATIONALLY ACCLAIMED CATHOLIC BIBLICAL SCHOLAR,
AUTHOR, AND PILGRIMAGE GUIDE

Monday (28th): Learning to Read the Bible as the Word of God
Tuesday (29th): Obstacles to Understanding the Bible Today
Wednesday (30th): Experiencing the Word of God for Missionary Discipleship



“I SHALL CULTIVATE THE GROUND
AROUND IT AND FERTILIZE IT;
IT MAY BEAR FRUIT IN THE FUTURE.
IF NOT YOU CAN CUT IT DOWN.”

LUKE 13:8-9

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TRUST IN GOD

Elizabeth Barret Browning wrote, “Earth’s crammed with heaven, And every common bush afire with God, But only he who sees, takes off his shoes; The rest sit round it and pluck blackberries.” We are challenged today to experience the mystery of God with the image of Moses and the burning bush—a God who answers all questions in a simple, bold manner. Like an exasperated parent telling a child “Because I said so,” God tells Moses “I am who I am,” and “tell the Israelites I AM sent me to you.” God may as well have said, “Save all your questions, and trust in me. Quit being so stubborn.” The passage from First Corinthians reminds us what happened when the Israelites did not listen to God’s message. They grumbled and complained because manna from heaven was not enough! Lastly, an annoyed Jesus calls on his listeners to repent and uses a difficult parable to stress transformation.

A CONTINUOUS LENT

In the Rule of Saint Benedict, the monks are told that their lives should be a “continuous Lent.” At first, this may sound like a negative, difficult thing, or entirely depressing. Rather, it is simply a call to be open and continue growing. In fact, one of the vows that Benedictines profess is *Conversatio Morum*, that is, “conversion of life.” In a nutshell, that is what Jesus is saying this week. We are being called to change our lives. Some people came to Jesus with gossip and a gruesome story about Pilate; Jesus challenged them with a couple of pointed questions, and then related the parable of the fig tree. To put it in context, usually figs blossom within two years, and then can be harvested twice a year. When a tree has been barren three years, it might be best just to remove it, but this is not the approach that Jesus suggested. Rather, the gardener in the parable chose to nurture the tree, fertilizing it with dung. He was not willing to give up on it.

GROWTH

There are times when we may feel our lives are covered in dung, and we lie dormant through a plethora of difficult and painful moments. But Jesus is calling us to use this time, to draw strength from it, to use the dung in our lives as fertilizer, to begin a slow and steady transformation to a new and better place, until we too can bear fruit. Growth is always a process, and we have to start somewhere. While there is always a call to repentance and conversion, we are blessed with a God who is loving enough and patient enough to wait for us to come to our senses, however long that may take. This Lent we are being called to life. We are called to repent. We are called to be nurtured and fertilized and take the time and effort to grow.

TODAY’S READINGS

Exodus 3:1–8a, 13–15

Psalms 103:1–2, 3–4, 6–7, 8, 11

1 Corinthians 10:1–6, 10–12

Luke 13:1–9

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 20, 2022

This Lent Listen To Jesus!

Fr. John Marconi's Homily from the Second Sunday of Lent, March 13, 2022

This Lenten Season is about change. We all have this hope of changing to be more like Jesus. This is why we Pray, Fast and Do Almsgiving. Remember, the key to all this is love. As Mother Teresa reminds us, it is not how much we pray, it is how much love you put into your prayer. It is not about fasting, but how much love you offer yourself to your fasting. It is not how much you give in almsgiving, but how much love you put into your giving. If we have entered into the Lenten season with this in mind, then God's love and grace is changing us, and will change us.

Changing and conforming ourselves into being more like Jesus, this is our Lenten goal. As I say this, I am very much aware of what is going on inside of me, and where I need God's grace. I like the practice of the Daily Examen from St. Ignatius of Loyola that helps to create greater awareness of the movement of God's spirit within. And it creates a greater awareness of what to avoid in my life that leads me away from God and that which is contrary to His Spirit within.

Once you begin to put this into practice into your life, then the Sacrament of Confession becomes a welcomed experience of God's mercy. God's mercy in us makes us better, makes us who we are and who we are called to be. It is also good to remember what St. Augustine said, "*our hearts are restless until they rest in thee O God!*" So if we find ourselves restless and feeling like something is missing, then we have to look no farther than within ourselves during this Lenten season.

What we need to do is to listen to God, listen to Jesus. This Second Sunday of Lent we hear of this power of change that happens when we listen to God. The Covenant of Abraham and the Transfiguration story reveals the gift of what can happen when we listen to God.

In Genesis it is amazing that Abraham, our father in faith, listened to God with so little revelation. But look what happened when he did. God blessed him in this covenant relationship with many descendants, as many as the stars in sky and sand on the seashore. He listened to God in prayer all day. Abraham is the Father of all Christians, all those of the Jewish and Islam faith. Abraham is our Father in Faith, who teaches us to listen to God.

Lent started with us in the desert. Where Jesus listened to His Father, followed where the Spirit led. Now we find Him on the mountain, praying as He heads to Jerusalem for the last time. And during this time of prayer, while He was listening, God the Father blessed Him to experience what is soon to happen - the Glory of the Resurrection. All we are asked to do, along with Peter, James, and John, is to listen to Him. This is my chosen Son, **Listen to Him**. Jesus is the fulfillment of the Prophets - Elijah and the Law - Moses. There is no one else we are called to Listen to, Listen to Jesus.

God didn't want the experience of his followers to remain on the mountain. He wanted His glory to live within their hearts. They would not understand this experience now, but later once they experienced the power of Jesus

resurrection, then they would find this gift within themselves. This is where we are called to find the power and light of Jesus, within ourselves.

And this Lent calls us to listen, to listen to Jesus. The only way this happens is when we find the time to be with Jesus. In quiet, away from TV, phone, computer, away from our many distractions. Then we can listen more clearly to the words of God that have the power to change hearts.

In praying with Psalm 27, "*The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom should I fear? The Lord is my refuge whom I should be afraid.*" This is the Responsorial Psalm for today. In my second year of the seminary, I seriously thought about leaving. I was stressed out, and I was assigned to teach a Confirmation class at St. Mark's in Plano Texas. There were over 400 to be confirmed that year. I had a class of 25, none of whom wanted to be there. It was a challenging experience for me all year. I felt like I had failed. Three months into to teaching, I decided I was done, no more. I went to talk to my supervisor, but he was busy. So I went to the chapel to talk to Jesus. In front of me was a bible. I picked it up, opened to one of the markers, and it opened to Psalm 27. I started to read it and then I heard the Lord, "*John, am I not the Lord of Life, your Light and Salvation?*" I said "*Yes, Lord.*" "*Then why are you afraid? John, am I not the refuge of your life?*" "*Yes, Lord.*" "*Then why are you afraid?*" In this short moment, the Lord changed my heart and mind, and I left, got my class notes, and headed out to the Dallas traffic. I think I kicked out 3-4 students that night for disrupting the class. Again, I felt like a complete failure and was very relieved when it was over.

Two years later I get a call from one of my former student's mother. She was in a rehab hospital. She could have one visitor or a chaplain to visit with her, she asked for me. I was surprised. I went to see her every week while she was there. Into my third visit, I asked her, "*Why did you asked for me?*" She then went on to tell me everything I said in one of my classes that gave her a glimmer of hope. She said, "*I am holding onto that hope that God will save me*". I gave thanks to God all the way back to the seminary.

God is always full of surprises once we put our trust in Him. I no longer felt like a failure, and thank God for this grace moment. I am in awe of God's grace and power to change lives, especially mine. It all happened because a heart was listening to Jesus.

Responding to the Word This Week

Jesus tells us that God is always at work,
like a patient gardener, caring for us..

**What work of pruning is God doing in me
so I might bear more fruit?**

Jesus, today I will . . .

*To reflect on this Sunday's readings online, go to
www.usccb.org/bible/readings/032022.cfm

Grief Support Group

MaryAnn Stafford and Laura Humphries want to help those who have recently or not so recently lost a loved one and are mourning their death. We strive to give information to help integrate the loss into your life. Many times when we grieve we feel like we are going crazy. We feel lost and alone and like we will never get better. These feelings are normal and we want to help you work through them. Understanding what you are going through is made somewhat easier if you share your loss with others who have experienced similar loss. We will offer a Grief Support Group in the Parish Hall led by Dr. Mary Ann Stafford and Laura Humphries, C.T. The group will meet for 10 sessions, beginning on Wednesday, April 6th, at 6:30pm to 7:30pm. If you or someone you know is in need of support, please email lhumphries@holysouls.org or 2dings@sbcglobal.net (Mary Ann Stafford) or call the church office and register for the group. If you have any questions, please contact Laura in the church office.

COLLECTIONS/STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Mass attendance, March 5 & 6	725
Mass attendance, March 12 & 13	706
Diocesan Collections –	
Ash Wednesday (Arkansas Missions) \$	2,765
Weekend Collections –	
March 5 & 6	\$ 28,448
March 12 & 13	\$ 30,078
Total March Collections	<u>\$ 58,525</u>
Total March Budgeted Collections	<u>\$ 120,000</u>
Actual Collections (7/1/21 - 2/28/22)	\$ 1,060,696
Budgeted (7/1/21 - 2/28/22)	\$ 1,000,000
Amount in excess of Budget	<u>\$ 60,696</u>
Maintenance Fund	<u>\$ 1,503</u>

Thank you for supporting our church.

Stations of the Cross



At Holy Souls,
Stations of the Cross
are every Friday at 7 p.m.
in the Church during Lent.

Or you may say a private Stations of the
Cross any time the church is open.



Next weekend, March 26 & 27, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next weekend, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's Love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.



The Catholic Diocese of Little Rock is committed to protecting children and young people. If you are aware of abuse or have been abused by Clerics, Church volunteers, or Church workers, please contact the State of Arkansas Hotline for Crimes against Children at 1-800-482-5964 and the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs, Dcn. Matthew A. Glover, (501) 664-0340 ext. 361. For pastoral assistance please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Little Rock: Laura Gosponer, (501) 664-0340, ext. 425. Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler St., Little Rock, AR 72207.

CATHOLIC



Senior CYM Meeting
(For youth in 9th to 12th Grades)
Wednesday, March 30th
6:00 p.m. - Benedict House

Junior CYM Meeting
(For youth in 7th & 8th Grades)
Thursday, April 7
6:30 p.m. - Benedict House

For more information,
contact Andrew Baka, Youth Minister,
at 501-663-8632 or abaka@holysouls.org.



**Join our
Young Catholic
Adults Group**

Grateful Stewards of God's Gifts . . .

Laura Humphries,
Parish Life & Stewardship Director

*For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.*

1 Cor 1:25

Paul explains to the Corinthians, "For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom." Everyday stewards are foolish. If you are fortunate enough to have money, possessions, time for endless fun, and marketable talents, to talk about giving that all back to God seems crazy. But our detractors see only with human eyes. When looking through the eyes of faith, we see the greater reality. So Jesus thought he could rebuild the temple in three days? He was insane! You think your daily walk with God will benefit anyone or anything more than running with the worldly pack? You are nuts!

As the world seemingly moves further from God, our foolishness stands out even more. But that is a blessing, because now our foolishness is even more relevant and profound. Just like Jesus in the temple, and Paul preaching of a crucified Christ, our active faith has a huge impact. So let your foolishness stand out. Maybe some out there who want to be fools just need some encouragement and good role models.

An excerpt from Everyday Stewardship

Today, with the world as it is, with all the temptation for self gratification, having everything right now, quickly, no waiting, what's a person to do? If we don't have an active prayer life, a strong relationship with God, we could very well be in danger of succumbing to the temptation of self-centeredness. The world can be an ugly place right now. That is why it is very important that we cling to our Catholic values and belief in Jesus Christ living a life of service to Our Lord and His church. We need to spend time with Jesus in prayer and solitude so that we can be strong Christians. Then, we too can be role models for the foolish and make a difference in this crazy world. Maybe if we pray hard enough, we can even pull the world a little closer to God or at least give the bad guys a run for their money. *With God, all things are possible.* Mt 19:26

Encounter Jesus, Serve Others

Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick

It is our honor and privilege that we will soon bring the Eucharist to the Catholic patients at UAMS. If you are one of the Eucharistic Ministers that participated in this incredible ministry prior to Covid starting and would like to continue, please let Laura know. If you would like to discuss joining this ministry or bringing the Eucharist to the homebound, please contact Laura in the church office. *"When you look at the crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now."* (Bl. Teresa of Calcutta) Come share Jesus' love and make a difference in someone's life.

Come, Let Us Adore Him

The same Jesus we read about in the Bible, hear about in readings at Mass, and watch movies about (if they are trendy enough) is the very same Jesus we receive and adore in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. What does this really mean? It is something far beyond our comprehension, but it is true. Not only are we able to receive Jesus in Holy Communion at each Mass as baptized Catholics in a state of grace, but we also have Him available in a very intimate way. He remains with us



so that we may come to Him and gaze upon Him, "Face-to-face," in The Most Blessed Sacrament, solemnly exposed for adoration. Saint Paul wrote about the transforming power of gazing Upon Our Lord: "And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into His likeness from one degree of glory to another." (2 Cor 3:18). To spend time with Him is to become more like Him.

Excerpt from Manual for Eucharistic Adoration

We need more people in Adoration! We would love to see the church full, but would be happy with at least three to four people each hour. Adoration is Wednesdays from 9am to 5:15pm, then Benediction at 5:15pm and Mass follows at 5:30pm. Confessions are heard from 4 to 5pm. We need people at each hour but the hours with the most need are: **9am to 10am, 2pm to 3pm, 3pm to 4pm. Please call Laura in the church office or email Lhumphries@holysouls.org to set your time. I promise you will be glad you did.**

Holy Souls Lenten



Friday, April 1

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. ~ Allen Center Cafetorium
In Person Dining and To Go Orders are available.

JUNKTIQUE SALE IS BACK!

Start cleaning out your closets and garages and get ready for the Junktique sale at Catholic High on Saturday, April 2. The Junktique sale is an annual fundraising event that has been described as a flea market, a garage sale, and a treasure hunt all rolled into one. Watch for more details on social media for how to donate, volunteer, and shop! Or for more information, contact Shannon Fratesi at sfratesi@lrchs.org.



CONFESSIONS AT HOLY SOULS

Wednesdays - 4:00 to 5:00 pm
and

Saturdays - 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Two priests will be available for Confessions
on Saturdays.

ADORATION

We will have Adoration on the Wednesday of Spring Break, which is March 23, and on the Wednesday of Holy Week, April 13th. We wanted to let you know before you wondered.



HUNGERING FOR A HEALTHY START

The next stop on our CRS Rice Bowl journey is the African nation of Rwanda, where we're reminded to care for the unborn. This week we pray for pregnant mothers, that they may have the medical and nutritional support they need to raise healthy, thriving children. Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

SPRING AND SUMMER RETREATS AT LITTLE PORTION HERMITAGE & MONASTERY

*A time of powerful healing and prayerful song
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Hope you'll join us for one of our upcoming retreats:

Hermitage of the Heart – March 25 - 27, 2022

Exploring the Gifts of the Spirit – June 3 - 5,
2022

Simple Living – June 24 - 25, 2022

Suggested donation is \$350 to cover the retreat, lodging,
and all meals. **Register online today to reserve your
spot at johnmichaeltalbot.com/retreats**

*For more information call us at Little Portion Hermitage
& Monastery 479-253-7710, 350 CR 248 Berryville, AR
72616*



Thank you to Mark Humphries for coming over to Church to look at a parishioner's car.

Petitions of the Ministry of Praise

March, 2022

Pope Francis' Intentions:

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.



In order to keep our bulletin prayer list up-to-date for the sick, names will remain on the list for four weeks. **Then their name will be written in the Book of Intercession where they will be remembered during every Mass.** To continue for another four weeks, please call the church office.

OUR PARISHIONERS -- Rob Mondy; Benjamin Stuart; Glennabell McCumpsey; Frank Kremers; Andy Gentry; Doug Pilcher; Kelly Ochoa; and Alice Stuff.

OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS -- Lucille Marconi; Frances Heffington; Phil Marks; Chris Ashcraft, Mike Limbird, Susan Jones, Liz George; Fagan Green; Phyllis Marks; Alissa Hastings; and Fr. Ruben Quintero.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED -- **Kay Corso**, sister of Jim Sick, aunt of Jeffery Sick and Mary Helen Briggler, and great-aunt of Julia & Forest Sick, and Jack, Noah, & Elizabeth Briggler; and **Sherron Shroyer**, mother of Jennifer Kilpatrick, and grandmother of Bob Kilpatrick.

OUR SEMINARIANS -- especially Christopher Elser and Joseph Jones.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

Please be sure to thank the generous advertisers in our bulletin. Through their participation, our parish receives our weekly bulletin free of charge.

REGISTRATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

Registration for new members is completed in the church office or online by visiting our web page, www.holysouls.org. Please contact the church office or go online at www.holysouls.org if you have moved, changed your telephone number, or email address. When parishioners reach 18 years of age, they should register separately from their family.

RCIA

If you are interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Susej Thompson at 501-663-8632 or sthompson@holysouls.org.

RETURNING CATHOLICS

If you are interested in returning to the Catholic Church, please contact Susej Thompson at 663-8632 or sthompson@holysouls.org.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 2:30 to 3:30pm and Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:00pm or call the church office for an appointment.

CHURCH VISITS

The Church is open for private prayer time on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday from 7:30am-3pm and on Wednesday from 7:30am -5:15pm. Please enter through the door on Harrison St. side by piano or the handicapped door in the front of church.

BAPTISM

Baptisms are scheduled on an individual basis. Please call the church office for more information.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the church office a minimum of six months in advance.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



To read the daily reading online, go to www.usccb.org/nab/today.shtml

Monday, March 21

No Mass

Tuesday, March 22

7:00 a.m. Mass

Wednesday, March 23

5:30 p.m. Mass

Thursday, March 24

7:00 a.m. Mass

Friday, March 25

7:00 a.m. Mass

Saturday, March 26

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Sunday, March 27

8:00 a.m. Mass

10:30 a.m. Mass

5:30 p.m. Mass

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30

Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35

Fr. Ralph J. Esposito by Holy Souls Parish

ST. TURIBIUS OF MOGROVEJO - Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19

Virginia & Joe Fetzek by The Fetzek Family

Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23

Joe Bartsch by Deb & Don Jones

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD - Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Jim Porter Jr. by Terry Snider

Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

Dana Green Robben by The Robben & Powell Families

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Jos 5:9a, 10-12; Ps 34:2-7; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Ron Hoofman by Holy Souls Seniors

Intentions of Parishioners

Missy Hill Carmack by Deb & Don Jones


Mass Intentions may be offered for the Repose of the Soul of a deceased loved one or for healing, a special occasion, or a special intention for yourself, a family member, or friend. Please contact Stacey in the Church Office for more information.



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