



"Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward will
be great in heaven."

MATTHEW 5:12a



The New Evangelization

MIGUEL DULICK

This season of the Church we call "Ordinary Time" is full of Jesus' teaching about how to live our Christian lives. Today's readings are especially rich. When Jesus takes his place as the New Moses to deliver his Sermon on the Mount, he begins, fittingly, with a new version of the commandments, but instead of "Thou shalt not," they are blessings! And they are paradoxical; always a sign of the divine touch. The "poor in spirit" get the kingdom of heaven; mourners are blessed, for they shall be comforted.

Now, who is supposed to do the comforting? We are. If the beatitudes are new commandments, we disciples are to obey them, even rejoicing in the blessing of persecution. What kind of people sign up for this? Saint Paul describes to the Christians in Corinth what kind of people God chooses: the foolish, the weak, the lowly and despised, the nothings of this world, to shame and confuse those who seem to run things. The wisdom of God seems like nonsense in a world where power reigns supreme. That sweet soul Zephaniah, author of today's first reading, saw the shift coming, from "don'ts" to "dos," from bossy to beatitude: "Seek the Lord, all you humble of the land" (Zephaniah 2:3). You will be "a people humble and lowly" who will pasture your flocks (and do the work God intends you to do) with "none to disturb" you (Zephaniah 3:12, 13). Sign me up for that! ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

How do Jesus' teachings work in the "real world"?

ST. BARBARA PARISH

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St. Thomas More Site

302 Chestnut Street
Dalzell IL



Holy Trinity Site

Parish Office

212 S Main Street
PO BOX 159
Cherry IL

Adoration Room at STM Site

Open Daily from 9 am-6 pm

Confession Info

Saturday morning, alternating
between STM Site & HT Site
in the Confessional between
10:30 am-11:15am

Church Office Info

Pastor: Father Thaddeus Tran

Pastoral Assistant: Melissa Pasillas

Office Hours at HT: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-1pm

Ongoing Parish Fundraising: STM Rav/Tort. Sale | call 815-252-2215 (leave name/phone #/order) \$9.00/bag

Emergency Number: 779-248-2164

Email: Melissahtc@outlook.com



CCD Classes

Sunday, February 1st — 6th-8th Grade CCD Class
Children's Mass 9am at HT for K-8th Grade

Sunday, February 8th — K- 5th Grade CCD Class

St. Barbara Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of February 2, 2026

Monday	02/02			† No Mass
Tuesday	02/03	9:00 am	STM Site	† Geraldine Sondgeroth
Wednesday	02/04	5:30 pm	HT Site	† Michael Campbell
Thursday	02/05	9:00 am	HT Site	† John & Dena Bussa
Friday	02/06	9:00 am	STM Site	† Deceased Goodrick/Weise Family

St. Barbara Mass Intentions for the weekend of February 7-8, 2026

Saturday	02/07	4:00 pm	St. Thomas More Site	† For the Parishioners
Sunday	02/08	9:00 am	Holy Trinity Site	† Alan Hahn

Christ Child Presented In The Temple

(The Presentation of the Lord, February 2nd)

Today's feast is celebrated in our Church forty days after Christmas, marking the day that Mary and Joseph would have brought Jesus into the Temple. Though Mary was pure and free from sin from the moment of her conception, and though the Son of God did not need to be redeemed, Mary and Joseph fulfilled these ritual obligations.



At the heart of this celebration is the encounter of Simeon and Anna with the Christ Child in the Temple. It is in that holy encounter that Jesus' divinity is manifested by a human prophet for the first time. At His birth, the angels proclaimed His divinity to the shepherds, but in the Temple, Simeon was the first to understand and proclaim Jesus as the Savior of the World. Anna, a prophetess, also came forward and "gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem" (Luke 2:38). Thus, these ritual acts were also a moment in which Jesus' divine mission was made manifest to the world.

As we celebrate Mary's ritual purification and Jesus' ritual redemption, we should see them as acts in which we are called to participate. First, each of us is unworthy of entering the true Temple of the Lord in Heaven. Yet we are invited to enter that Temple in union with Mary, our Blessed Mother. It was her consent to the will of God that opened the door of God's grace to us all. With her, we are now able to appear before God, purified and holy in His sight. Saint Joseph also presents all who strive to live in union with Jesus. The hope is that, like Simeon and Anna, others will see God alive within us and experience the Savior of the World through us.

Ponder, today, our souls being the new temple of the Lord, and acknowledge our need to be purified and offered to the Father in Heaven. As Christ continues to enter into the temple of our souls, pray that He will shine forth for others to see so that, like Simeon and Anna, they will encounter our Lord within us.

(excerpted: mycatholic.life)

Church Announcements

Ash Wednesday February 18th Mass: 8:30am STM site & 5:30pm HT site

Stations of the Cross Schedule:

Stations will alternate between the 2 churches on Lenten Fridays.

Friday Feb. 20th -STM at 6pm

Friday Feb. 27th- HT at 6pm

Friday March 6th-STM at 6pm

Friday March 13th- HT at 6pm

Friday March 20th- STM at 6pm

Friday March 27th-HT at 6pm

Franciscan Jubilee Year-(Jan.10, 2026-Jan.10, 2027)

For the 800th anniversary death of St. Francis of Assisi, Pope Leo XIV has offered a heartfelt prayer specially composed for this Jubilee year. He also invites the faithful to reflect on peace, reconciliation, and Christian discipleship. Copies of this prayer is available at the back of the church.



Latest Offering's

January 25th Weekend

St. Barbara Parish

Total Collections:

\$1,724.00

Next Confessions

Confessions on

Sat. February 7th

10:30am-11:15am

STM in the Confessional

Dear Padre,

I am struggling with our new pastor. He has been in our parish for less than six months, and nothing seems to please him. Everything has to change, and the parishioners have no input. I thought the days of “pray, pay, and obey” were over.

The *Code of Canon Law* identifies the pastor as the shepherd of the parish. His duties require him to teach, sanctify, and govern the people entrusted to his care. However, canon law also envisions that the pastor will engage in pastoral care “with the assistance of lay members of Christ’s faithful” (CCL 519).

The intention of the law is to encourage the building up of a community using the “knowledge, prudence, and integrity” of every member (CCL 228, §2). Many issues, feelings, and even theologies make up the personalities of a parish. The one constant that needs to be present is the presumption of goodwill. (See *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2478). If that is missing, then conflict, hard feelings, and many misunderstandings will result.

Without taking sides, I suggest that everyone take a deep breath. Then each of you—the pastor included—ask yourself, “Have I attempted to interpret this person or situation favorably? Have I made any rash judgments?” If honest and prayerful reflection reveals less-than-good intentions, now is the time for an attitude change and to acknowledge that a new start is needed. ●



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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
February 2	February 3	February 4	February 5	February 6	February 7	February 8
<i>The Presentation of the Lord</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr</i>	<i>St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Mal 3:1-4	2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a,	2 Sm 24:2, 9-17	1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12	Sir 47:2-11	1 Kgs 3:4-13	Is 58:7-10
Heb 2:14-18	30-19:3	Mk 6:1-6	Mk 6:7-13	Mk 6:14-29	Mk 6:30-34	1 Cor 2:1-5
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32	Mk 5:21-43					Mt 5:13-16



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

The desire to work together for a common purpose reflects an essential reality: no one is Christian alone! We are part of a people, a body established by the Lord.... The Christian life is not lived in isolation.... It is lived with others, in a group and in community, because the risen Christ is present wherever disciples gather in his name.

ADDRESS, ROME, JUNE 6, 2025