



"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,'
and your 'No' mean 'No.'"

MATTHEW 5:37

Some Walk Away

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No'" (Matthew 5:37). This teaching of Jesus seems to get lost, perhaps because it comes at the end of a long listing of commandments. Regardless, it seems to get right to the point, almost making the other commandments unnecessary or perhaps clarifying them. Either you are going to be a child of your heavenly Father and live like one, or you are not. If you are a child of God, you would not contemplate any evil behaviors, let alone actually do them.

That is the clarity of the teaching of Jesus. It is authentic. It is compelling. It invites a response. Yet, there are those who were present with him who did not understand. Who missed the point. Who insisted on another way. Who could not discern the simplicity of the truth. To each of these men and women, including some with the religious title of scribe or Pharisee, he observed, "And if the light in you is darkness, how great will the darkness be" (Matthew 6:23). Even sadder is that not only did they miss the point, they also simply walked away.

Do you want to say more than a simple "Yes" or "No"? Do you want to say, "Yes, but... I can't do it now." Or "I can't forgive this particular person." Or "I can't welcome this particular stranger." Or "I can't love him or her or them."

Have you also missed the point? Do you also want to walk away? ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

What teachings of Jesus are too hard to consider?

ST. BARBARA PARISH

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Phone 815-894-2006

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Website: www.bureauatholic.org



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

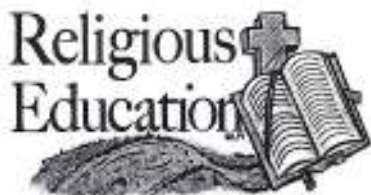
Office Hours at HT: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-1pm

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

STM Rav Group: The Rav/Tort Fundraiser will be ending for the year at the end of March. Please place your order by March 23rd to be filled by March 31st.

Emergency Number: 779-248-2164

Email: Melissahtc@outlook.com



CCD Classes

Sunday, February 15th — 6th-8th Grade CCD Class

Sunday, February 22nd — K- 5th Grade CCD Class

St. Barbara Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of February 16, 2026

Monday	02/16		† No Mass
Tuesday	02/17	9:00 am STM Site	Tara Stone (special intention)
Wednesday	02/18	8:30 pm STM Site/Ash Wednesday	† Carolyn Brandner
		5:30 pm HT Site/Ash Wednesday	† Thomas Herman
Thursday	02/19	9:00 am HT Site	† Bob Lehn
Friday	02/20	9:00 am STM Site	† Michael Lewis Ray
		6:00 pm Stations of the Cross / STM	

St. Barbara Mass Intentions for the weekend of February 21-22, 2026

Saturday	02/21	4:00 pm ST. Thomas More Site	† For the Parishioners
Sunday	02/22	9:00 am Holy Trinity Site	† James Smith

Reflecting On The Upcoming Lenten Season

(The Lenten season starts on Ash Wednesday,
February 18th)



People often don't look forward to Lent. Childhood memories of giving up candy or sitting through weekly Stations of the Cross come immediately to mind. Words like "sacrifice," "discipline," and "self-denial" are often used in ways that suggest that Lent is something to be endured rather than a time of grace and spiritual growth.

Have you ever thought of Lent as a yearly second chance? Each year the Church gives us six weeks to take a long, loving look at our lives to see if our values and priorities are in line with God's desires for us. Since most of us find that we've wandered from God's path, Lent becomes that second chance, or do-over, to "return to God with our whole heart."

We're highlighting Lenten practices and memories of people who have shared their stories with us. Their experiences range from pious and traditional to creative and out-of-the-ordinary, but all of them represent attempts to make the season of Lent a meaningful time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for themselves, their loved ones, and their communities. Invite family members to share their thoughts, hopes, and desires for Lent. Decide to support one another in whatever you choose to do. As you journey through this annual second chance, remember that each step brings you closer to the welcoming arms of our loving God. (excerpted from "loyolapress.com")

Church Announcements

Stations of the Cross:

The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorates the passion and death of Jesus for sinful humanity. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the individual moves from station to station. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day. The First Station of the Cross will take place at 6pm, Friday, Feb 20th, STM Church.

News Release from Bishop Tylka:

To all the faithful of the Diocese of Peoria,
"The Holy See has informed me that the Cause for the Venerable Servant of God Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen can proceed to Beatification. The next step in the process is the celebration of Beatification, in which Fulton Sheen would be declared Blessed. We are working with the Dicastery of the Causes of Saints at the Vatican to determine the details for the upcoming Beatification. The date and event will be released soon through celebratesheen.com"

Wedding Anniversary:

Congratulations to Jim & Gemma Lehn on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. May the Lord continue to bless them and theirs.

Latest Offering's

February 8th Weekend

St. Barbara Parish

Total Collections:

\$3,676.00



**Please remember to
take home a Lent
program sheet in the
back of the Church.**

Next Confessions

Confessions on

Sat. February 21st

10:30am-11:15am

STM in the Confessional

Dear Padre,

My grandkids' parents don't want them to be baptized. Can I do it myself secretly so as not to cause problems?

Your concern is understandable, but secret baptisms are prohibited in the Catholic Church. The decision to baptize a child is determined by his or her parents. To secretly usurp their decision may cause problems of its own. For an infant to be baptized, "The parents or at least one of them or the person who legitimately takes their place must consent," and "There must be a founded hope that the infant will be brought up in the Catholic religion" (*Code of Canon Law*, 868 §1). An exception is permitted when the child's life is in immediate danger: "An infant of Catholic parents or even of non-Catholic parents is baptized licitly in danger of death, even against the will of the parents" (CCL 868 §2). Here, the Church's pastoral concern is for the child to receive the immediate graces from the sacrament; the question of raising the child in the faith becomes moot in a life-or-death situation.

"Since the earliest times, baptism has been administered to children, for it is a grace and a gift of God that does not presuppose any human merit.... Entry into Christian life gives access to true freedom" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1282). Continue to pray that your family may see baptism as a sign of God's love, which offers true freedom for humanity. ●



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

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV



The Spirit opens borders, first of all, in our hearts. He is the Gift that opens our lives to love. His presence breaks down our hardness of heart, our narrowness of

mind, our selfishness, the fears that enchain us and the narcissism that makes us think only of ourselves.... Sadly, oddly enough, in a world of burgeoning "social" media, we risk being ever more alone.

HOMILY, ROME, JUNE 8, 2025

Monday

February 16

Weekday

Jas 1:1-11

Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday

February 17

Weekday

Jas 1:12-18

Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday

February 18

Ash Wednesday

Jl 2:12-18

2 Cor 5:20-6:2

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

February 19

Thursday after

Ash Wednesday

Dt 30:15-20

Lk 9:22-25

Friday

February 20

Friday after

Ash Wednesday

Is 58:1-9a

Mt 9:14-15

Saturday

February 21

Saturday after

Ash Wednesday

Is 58:9b-14

Lk 5:27-32

Sunday

February 22

First Sunday

of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Rom 5:12-19 or

5:12, 17-19

Mt 4:1-11

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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