



Embrace the Darkness

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

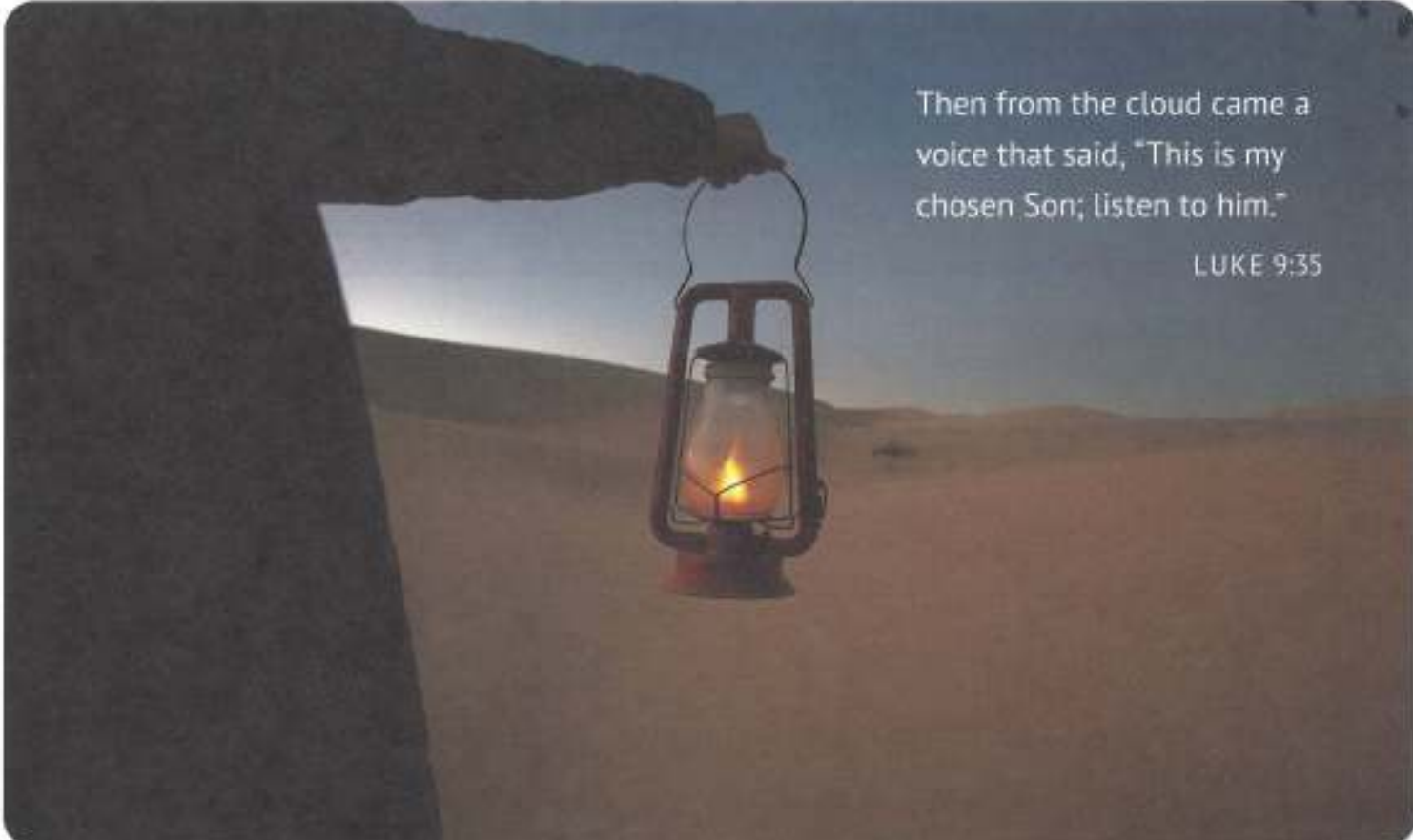
The darkness can be unsettling. As a child, my nightly bedtime ritual included checking beneath my bed as well as in the dark hall closet. One could never know what denizens of harm might be lurking there, hidden in the shadows. As adults, the darkness we fear is no longer what lies hidden about our home. Rather, the darkness we attempt to escape is the unknown forces that have the power to overturn our lives. It is the death of someone we love that plunges us into fear and loss, forcing us to somehow make our way, alone and unsure. It is the frightening medical diagnosis that has the ability to dismantle our planned future. It is the financial security that dissolves before our very eyes. In such darkness, we grope blindly to find our way.

The Book of Genesis notes that a trance came upon Abram, a terrifying darkness that enveloped him. The gospel relays how Peter, James, and John became frightened atop Mt. Tabor when they found themselves in a cloud that obscured their sight. Yet, the darkness became for each of them a place in which they came to know their God in a totally new way; it set them on a new path of faith. It is then that we, too, are forced to surrender trust in our own wisdom.

Unable to see clearly what is in store for us, we can only rely on a new path, trusting that we will be accompanied by our God. ●

Reflect

When has life's darkness brought me to a new and deeper faith in God?



Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him."

LUKE 9:35



St. Thomas More

302 Chestnut Street

Dalzell IL 61320

Phone 815-663-6201

Email: thomasmore32@gmail.com

Adoration Room at STM

Open Daily from 9 am - 6 pm

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

212 S Main Street

PO Box 159

Cherry IL 61317

Phone 815-894-2006

Email: HolyTSP@gmail.com



Church Office Info

Pastor: Father Thaddeus Tran

Pastoral Assistant: Julie Hollinger

Parish Secretary: Melissa Pasillas Email: Melissahtc@outlook.com

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

Website: www.bureaucatholic.org

Emergency Number: 779-248-2164

Confession Info

Confessions: Saturday morning, alternating between STM & HT 10:30 am-11:15

Upcoming/Ongoing Church Events

Fundraiser: STM Rav/Tort | call 815-252-2215 (leave name/phone number/order) | \$9.00/bag

CCD Classes

Sunday, March 16th - 6 & 7th Grade

Sunday, March 23th- K-5th Grade



Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of March 17, 2025

| | | | | |
|-----------|------|---------|-----|------------------------------|
| Monday | 3/17 | | | + No Mass |
| Tuesday | 3/18 | 9:00 am | STM | + Linda Rutoski |
| Wednesday | 3/19 | 5:30 pm | HT | + Daisy Kopek |
| Thursday | 3/20 | 9:00 am | HT | + Skeffington-Cassidy Family |
| Friday | 3/21 | 9:00 am | STM | + Gene & Josie Weberski |
| | | 6:00 pm | STM | Stations of the Cross |

Mass Intentions for the weekend of March 22-23, 2025

| | | | | |
|----------|------|---------|----------------|------------------------|
| Saturday | 3/22 | 4:00 pm | St Thomas More | + For the Parishioners |
| Sunday | 3/23 | 8:30 am | Holy Trinity | + Ron & Joyce Hoscheid |

St. Joseph- Worthy Spouse Of Mary

(Feast Day: March 19)

St. Joseph, a model of faith, obedience, and quiet strength, exemplifies a life of service and dedication, inspiring us to trust in God's plan and care for those entrusted to our care.

We don't know much about him except what is mentioned in the Gospels. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. Holy Scripture proclaims him as a "just man," and the Church has turned to Joseph for his patronage and protection. Pope Leo XIII in his encyclical *Quamquam Pluries* (On the Devotion to St. Joseph) in 1889 explains why we place so much trust in this saint:

"Thus in giving Joseph the Blessed Virgin as spouse, God appointed him to be not only her life's companion, the witness of her maidenhood, the protector of her honor, but also, by virtue of the conjugal tie, a participator in her sublime dignity. And Joseph shines among all mankind by the most august dignity, since by divine will, he was the guardian of the Son of God and reputed as His father among men. Hence it came about that the Word of God was humbly subject to Joseph, that He obeyed him, and that He rendered to him all those offices that children are bound to render to their parents."

One hundred years later Pope St. John Paul II echoes his predecessor in his 1989 Apostolic Exhortation *Redemptoris Custos* (Guardian of the Redeemer), hoping "that all may grow in devotion to the Patron of the Universal Church and in love for the Savior whom he served in such an exemplary manner ... In this way the whole Christian people not only will turn to St. Joseph with greater fervor and invoke his patronage with trust, but also will always keep before their eyes his humble, mature way of serving and of 'taking part' in the plan of salvation." St. Joseph is invoked as patron for many causes. He is the patron of the Universal Church. He is the patron of the dying because Jesus and Mary were at his death-bed. He is also the patron of fathers, of carpenters, and of social justice. Many religious orders and communities are placed under his patronage.

Jennifer Gregory Miller (from catholicculture.org)



Church Announcements

Please be reminded that this coming Friday we will have Stations of the Cross at STM at 6pm. This is a great opportunity to perform our Lenten duties, as we journey through this time of penance and sacrifice. We strongly urge all members who can attend please join us on Fridays.



Church Donated items

Please be reminded that according to Church's Canon Law as well as diocesan policies, all items donated to the Church are forever Church's property. Hence, under no circumstance can any of these donated items be taken by the donors or by their relatives. Keep in mind also that any unauthorized remove of Church's goods are regarded as theft and shall be reported to the authority for further investigation. Any questions or concerns please let Fr. Thaddeus or the office know.

Latest Offering's
March 9th Weekend

HT - \$971
STM - \$837
SP- \$400



Confessions

Sat. March 22th
10:30 am-11:15 am
Holy Trinity
in the confessional

Join the Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women for the Illinois Pro-Life March!



Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Location: Lincoln Statue in front of the Illinois Capitol Building
401 S 2nd St, Springfield, IL 62761

Cost: \$30 per person, which includes charter bus transportation, a community of like-minded individuals, and a light lunch, snacks, and drinks. Note: The cost is by reservation only, and we have reserved seating for 30 people.

Bus Pickup: The bus will pick up at the Spalding Pastoral Center at 8:00 AM to ensure we have plenty of time to arrive at mass and pray before it begins. After mass, we will have a light lunch on the bus, which will include a 1/2 gonzo, chips, an apple, and a cookie. You are welcome to bring your own lunch if you prefer something different.

Schedule:

- 10 AM: Mass for Life at Sangamon Auditorium, University of Illinois Springfield
- 1 PM: Rally
- 2 PM: March

We will join Chesterton Academy at mass and then join them in marching together. We will leave after the March and return to the Spalding Pastoral Center.

Note: Illinois Right to Life in Springfield will provide posters for us to march with upon our arrival.

Reservation information:

To reserve your spot, call Mary Jo Gubner at 309-380-4876. Please make check payable to POCOWMarch and send to: Mary Jo Gubner, 1335 N. Hickory Hill, Georgetown Hills, IL 61341

You can also pay by credit card using the QR code provided.



Invitation to All:

We invite all men, women, and families across the diocese to join us in marching together. If you plan to attend, please contact us so we can connect on the day of the event and march together.

Join us for a meaningful day of faith and action!

Dear Padre,

Does the Church teach how we should dress to go to Mass? Maybe I'm just old-fashioned, but the way some people dress seems very disrespectful.

Church teaching, dogmas, doctrines, and creedal formulations are not the specific resources to consult in order to answer this question. It is properly a matter of discipline and practice, although the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* does direct that "bodily demeanor (gestures, clothing) ought to convey respect" (1387). There are many commentaries on what exactly "respect" might mean.

It would be very difficult to establish a universal dress code. The many different cultures, climates, and particular circumstances of a specific Catholic community make a dress code unmanageable. It seems that you judge the local practice not up to your standards. Your judgment may be correct, or you may have unreasonable expectations. There was a time when "Sunday best" was the established norm. In other communities, the expectation would be "business casual" as a bare minimum. Now, it seems standards and practices are very fluid and flexible. All of this being said, it is ultimately a pastoral concern, not doctrinal or dogmatic. Try not to allow how other people dress distract you from your purpose at Mass. While they may not look like you imagine they should, their prayer might be genuine and heartfelt. ●



PHOTOGRAPH BY SHUTTERSTOCK

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

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

After the labors of each day, it will do us good not to switch off the light in the room without placing ourselves in the light of God.... Wonder at the boundless love of God, who never tires of us and has the power to transfigure our days, to give them a new meaning, a new, unexpected light.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 13, 2022



UNSPLOASH

Monday

March 17

Lenten Weekday

Dn 9:4b-10

Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday

March 18

Lenten Weekday

Is 1:10, 16-20

Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday

March 19

St. Joseph, Spouse

of the Blessed

Virgin Mary

2 Sm 7:4-5a,

12-14a, 16

Rom 4:13, 16-18,

22

Mt 1:16, 18-21,

24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Thursday

March 20

Lenten Weekday

Jer 17:5-10

Lk 16:19-31

Friday

March 21

Lenten Weekday

Gn 37:3-4, 12-

13a, 17b-28a

Mt 21:33-43,

45-46

Saturday

March 22

Lenten Weekday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday

March 23

Third Sunday of

Lent

Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15

1 Cor 10:1-6,

10-12

Lk 13:1-9

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org

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