

Dismantled and Reassembled

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

t is the time of year when seasons turn and the rhythm of life changes as days become dismantled and reassembled in new and varied ways. All of this is not unlike the much deeper process continually at play within our hearts. Indeed, the seasons of our individual lives can be dismantled and reassembled—and often more than once in a lifetime. That white-robed prophet of doom who proclaims that the end is near is right. Our lives do collapse in such cosmic ways that not one stone is left upon another. The end may come with a life-robbing illness or the premature death of someone we love. It may take the shape of an unwanted move to a new city or a life collapsed by addiction. It may happen slowly, as life forces us to surrender passion or enthusiasm or the dreams of our youth, like colors faded by sunlight yet never noticed until suddenly we realize the color has all but disappeared. Such transitions can feel as violent as the end of our lives in this world. Indeed, at such times, we may feel that a part of us has died. Yet, if we pay attention, we may discover that we have been refashioned, recreated into something new. It is the story of the divine phoenix rising from the ashes, lived by every human being and understood by every person who lives with faith in the resurrection.

Reflect

Have I known the experience of life being dismantled and reassembled into something new?



ST. BARBARA PARISH

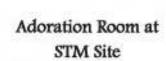
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Website: www.bureaucatholic.org



St. Thomas More Site 302 Chestnut Street Dalzell IL



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



Parish Office 212 S Main Street PO BOX 159 Cherry IL

Church Office Info

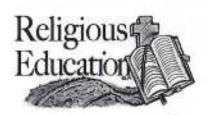
Pastor: Father Thaddeus Tran

Pastoral Assistant: Melissa Pasillas

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

Emergency Number: 779-248-2164

Email: Melissahtc@outlook.com



CCD Classes

Sunday, November 16th - K-5th grade(10:00am-11:00am)

Sunday, November 23rd - 6th-8th grade class(10:00am-11:30am)

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St. Barbara Mass Intentions for the weekend of November 22-23, 2025

| Saturday | 11/22 | 4:00 pm | ST. Thomas More Site | † For the Parishioners |
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| Sunday | 11/23 | 9:00 am | Holy Trinity Site | † Gordon & Ellen Enerson |

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Feast Day: November 21st

Tradition believes that Joachim and Anne were barren, and for that reason people of the biblical era would have viewed the couple with suspicion and looked down on them. Like any other couple hoping to conceive, Joachim and Anne prayed to God, asking for the blessing of a child. God heard their prayer, and they were grateful to Him. The story of Joachim and Anne like the Old Testament account of the barren Hannah, who begged God for a child and later gave birth to Samuel. Maximus the Confessor, draws out the similarity in his "The Life of the Virgin", comparing the name Hannah and Anna. The Presentation of Mary reminds us of Hannah's willingness to offer Samuel back to God because Joachim and Anne bring the child Mary to the temple in a similar fashion at the age of 3.



The Presentation of Mary also highlights the fact Mary chooses God at this point in her life, even if at such a young age. On Dec. 8 the Church celebrates Mary's preservation from Original Sin, called her Immaculate Conception. We could say that God chose Mary, as He foresaw the merits of Christ's death and applied them to Mary. But the Presentation allows Mary to exercise her free will and choose to live her life devoted to God. Mary's choice lends us an example to follow. Each day is an opportunity for us to renew and recommit ourselves to the Lord's service, just as she did in the temple.

Catholics can look back and see Mary's time in the temple, from the age of 3 to 12, as a time of Advent and preparation. God called her to be there, and, in turn, she chose God. Because of this, God prepared her to receive the Savior of the World. The celebration of Mary's presentation in the temple is an anticipation of the Advent we commence around the time of this feast. Throughout the holy season of Advent, with Mary we can listen to the prophecies, watch and pray for the coming of the Dawn From On High.

(Excerpted from www.simplycatholic.com)

Announcements

Thanksgiving Day Mass

As we get ready for this year's Thanksgiving celebration, please be informed there will be a morning Mass at Holy Trinity Site at 9am. Come to this Mass so together we can thank God for all the blessings we have received throughout the year.

Toy Drive

Hall TWP Food Pantry is having their annual toy drive. Please join them in spreading some Holiday Season spirit by donating new, unwrapped, age appropriate gifts for children ages 1 through 12. Suggested items are toys, games, building kits, dolls, winter hats, mittens/gloves, scarves and books. Deadline to donate is Monday, December 8.

Latest Offering's

November 9th Weekend St. Barbara Parish Total Collections: \$2,386.00

Next Confessions

Confession will be
Sat. November 22th
HT site in the

Confessional

Dear Padre,

Is it a sin to swear if I'm not taking the Lord's name in vain?

As hard as it might be to comprehend, not every bad habit is a sin. Human weakness is sometimes nothing more than human weakness. An exclamation of anger or frustration is often nothing more than an expression of how you feel. When we assign "sin" to every human action or imperfection, we trivialize sin. When we see sin around every corner and in every possible human interaction, we might very well become numb to the presence of real sin when it occurs. The possibility of sin is a wonderful motivator to help us adjust our choices and change our behaviors, but it need not be the only option.



Monitor your speech because you want to be a good person, a mature person, a caring person. That is a virtuous reason and worth the effort. At the same time, remain vigilant, as any good person who desires to be in relationship with the Lord, and choose behaviors that model a good Christian life. Examine your choices and decisions, and when you recognize the presence of sin, be willing to acknowledge that it is sinful, confess it, and then graciously accept the forgiveness and mercy of the Lord. •

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

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

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| uesday | Wednesd |
|------------|-------------|
| ovember 18 | November |
| leekday | Weekday |
| Mc 6:18-31 | 2 Mc 7:1, 2 |
| k 19:1-10 | Lk 19:11-2 |
| k 19:1-10 | Lk 19:11-7 |

| dnesday | Thursday |
|--------------|--------------|
| ember 19 | November 20 |
| ekday | Weekday |
| c 7:1, 20-31 | 1 Mc 2:15-29 |
| 9:11-28 | Lk 19:41-44 |
| | |

| Friday |
|------------------|
| November 21 |
| The Presentation |
| of the Blessed |
| Virgin Mary |
| 1 Mc 4:36-37, |
| 52-59 |
| 1 k 19:45-48 |

| Saturday |
|---------------------|
| November 22 |
| St. Cecilia, Virgir |
| and Martyr |
| 1 Mc 6:1-13 |
| Lk 20:27-40 |
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| Sunday |
|-----------------|
| November 23 |
| Our Lord Jesus |
| Christ, King of |
| the Universe |
| 2 Sm 5:1-3 |
| Col 1:12-20 |
| Lk 23:35-43 |
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A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Relations between the Catholic Church and Muslims have been marked by a growing commitment to dialogue and fraternity, fostered by esteem for these our brothers and sisters.... This approach, based on mutual respect and freedom of conscience, is a solid foundation for building bridges between our communities.

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 19, 2025

