



Embrace the Darkness

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

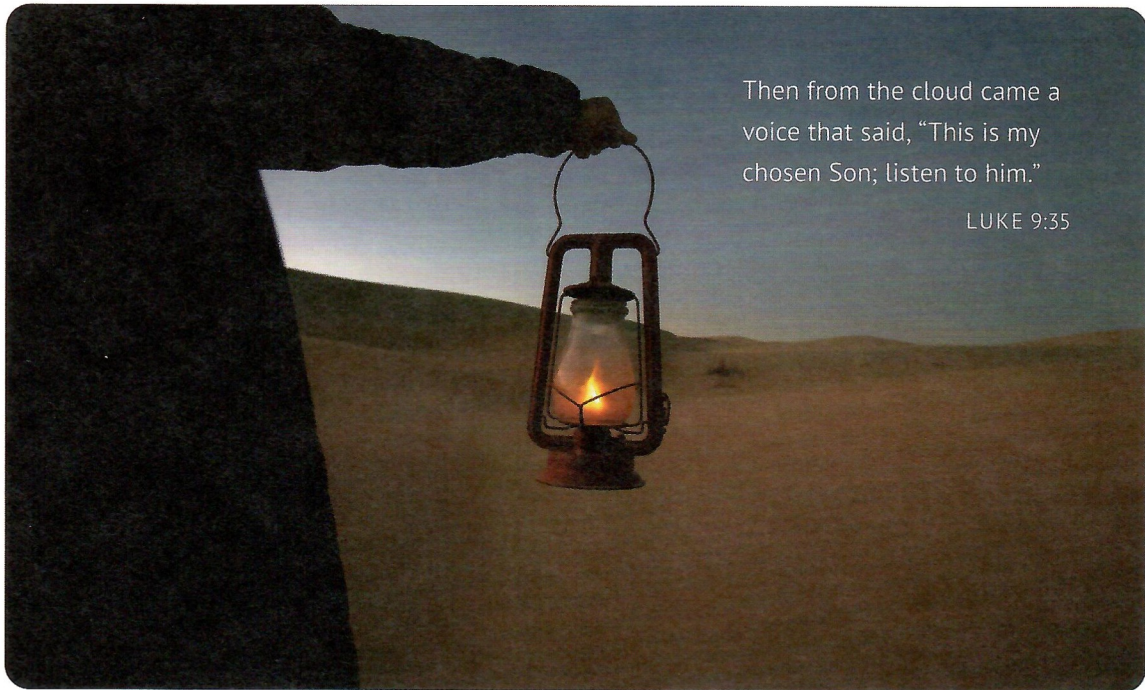
The darkness can be unsettling. As a child, my nightly bedtime ritual included checking beneath my bed as well as in the dark hall closet. One could never know what denizens of harm might be lurking there, hidden in the shadows. As adults, the darkness we fear is no longer what lies hidden about our 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?



**SAINT JOSEPH
AKRON, CO
phone: 970-345-6996**

Pastor: Rev. Herman Nsubuga
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Maurice Okeke
Deacon: Joe Benjamin ph: 970-554-1154

Masses: Sat. - 7:00 PM Sun - 8:00 AM
 Tues. - 5:30 PM Wed. - 7:30 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
1/2 h before daily Masses or by appointment
Sat. 1/2 h before 7:00 PM Mass and after
Sun. - 7:00 AM

Anointing of the Sick - call the Office

Office: open Tuesday and Wednesday.
(970) 345-6996 leave message
Visit our Website www.stmarybrush.org

Sign up at Flocknote.com/stjosephakron
Or from your cell phone text: akron to 84576
We are on Facebook:
Saint Joseph Catholic Church - Akron.
St. Mary's: www.facebook.com/STMBrush

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Sign Up & Select "I belong to a Parish"
Enter 80723 / select St. Mary's
Enter your e-mail - and you are in!

If you are interested in being a cantor or
providing music for the Mass, please contact
Marcia Pieper (970)554-1535
or **Julie Green** (970)554-0740

Bulletin: Kathy McFadden 970-301-2306
or kathryndianehall@gmail.com

Mass Intentions

Sat. Mar. 15 Vigil
7:00 p.m. †...
Sun. Mar. 16 Mass/2nd Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. †Patrick Aaron O'Neil
- Altar & Rosary
Tues Mar 18 Mass
5:30 p.m. †Patrick Aaron O'Neil - RTH
Wed Mar. 19 Mass/St. Joseph
6:00 p.m. For Parishioners
Sat. Mar. 22 Vigil
7:00 p.m. †...
Sun. Mar. 23 Mass/3rd Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. Graces/Rebecca McFadden
- WKM

In need of prayer support, call
Linda Littleton: 970-630-3267
Kim Krause: 970-554-1459
Peggy Dreher: 970-554-0546

Please Pray For Our Sick:
Kane Schrock, Mary Ann Kreutzer, Barbara
Wolf, Bobby Dreher, Terry Hart, Pauline
Frenzl, Dan Killip, Ray Hottinger, Deacon
Taylor Elder, Bridget Glosson, Ken Kuntz,
Randy Kraich, Carol Benjamin, Don
Mollendor, Maria Foy, Beverly Gebauer,
Tricia Dreher, Bibiana Camacho, Robert
McMillion, MaryAnne Middlebrook, John
Stair, Ken Richards

For the Soul: Patrick O'Neil

Eucharistic Adoration at St. Joseph
Tuesdays / 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
Spend time with our Lord...

Catholic Adult Enrichment Classes
Thursdays at 7:00 pm in Coyne Hall

St. Joseph's corner:

"Saint Joseph, please help me to obey God's will for me today without attention or recognition. Amen"

LENT 2025 - Wednesdays

5:00 p.m. - Confessions
5:30 p.m. - STATIONS OF THE CROSS
6:00 p.m. - Mass
6:30 p.m. - Lenten Soup Supper

Dates: March 19, 26, April 2, 9, 16

19th - Celebrate St. Joseph Feast (patron) after stations and a meal after Mass

Lenten Penance Services at 6:00 p.m.

April 3 / Thursday / **St. Anthony**, Sterling
April 8 / Tuesday / **St. Joseph**, Akron
April 10 / Thursday / **St. Mary**, Brush

SPIRITUAL FOOD IN LENT

Focus on Christ, Not Just Sacrifice

Lent is about drawing closer to Jesus, not just giving things up. Encourage them to fix their eyes on Christ. (Heb 12:2) – "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross..."

REQUEST FOR MASS INTENTIONS
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

There is no charge for Mass; however, a customary offering of \$10 is appreciated.

Intention Name: _____

_____ Living _____ Deceased

Requested by _____

Phone _____

Date Wanted _____

Lay Minister Schedule

March 23, 2025

Natalie Gross 620-952-9208

Greeters/Gifts: Layne & Sum Crumley

Pianist: Marcia Pieper

Cantor: Jim Pieper

Lector: Jordan Willeke

Altar Servers: C & G McFadden, E Gardner

Head Usher: Tracy Samber

Euch Ministers: Monte & Peggy Willeke

Stations of the Cross Retreat—San Luis

We will be taking a retreat to the life sized stations on Sunday, March 30th. See more on the bulletin board at the back of the church or contact Linda Littleton or Rita Hart

Saturday, April 5 / Lenten Retreat

8:15 am - 5:00 pm / Jessica Navin,

"There is no love without forgiveness, and there is no forgiveness without love."

St. Helena's Catholic Church, Ft. Morgan, CO

\$20 per person / REGISTER ONLINE by

March 28th at @https://

www.stmarybrush.org/lenten-retreat.html

No computer > use registration form

For more: **Jeanett Baker at 303-902-9994 or**

Bridget Link at nocoretreat@gmail.com

Rachel's Vineyard Colorado

Catholic Healing Retreat, May 2 - 4

Are you or someone you know suffering from the pain of an abortion?

to learn more about our confidential retreat in Evergreen:

Lori (303) 904-7414 (no texts please)

Email: Lori@rvrcolorado.org

Visit: rvrcolorado.org

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. ●



BRICOLAGE / 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

UNSPLASH

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**.