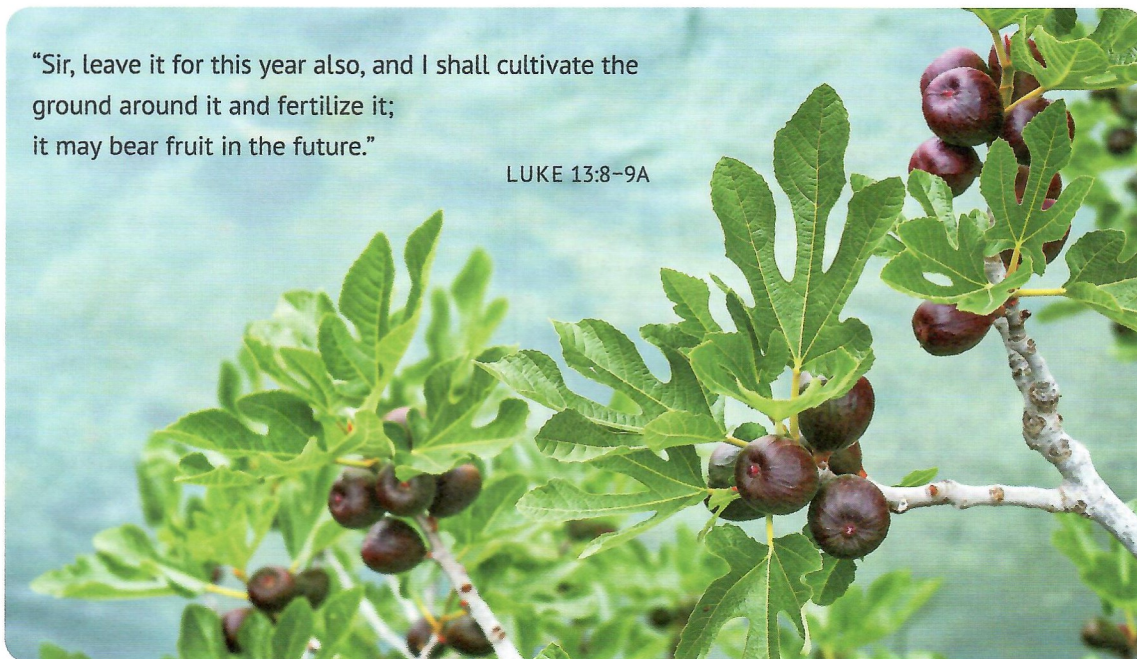




“Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future.”

LUKE 13:8–9A



A Gardener God

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Charles Baudelaire was a French poet and essayist in the mid-1800s. He once observed that life is like a hospital in which each patient is possessed by the desire to change beds. In other words, he thought everyone seemed to think life would be so much better if only they had a different set of circumstances, a different job, a different marriage, a different place in life. Like trees, however, not everyone grows and matures at the same pace. There are forty-year-olds who still act and think like teenagers, and there are ten-year-olds who have an attitude toward life like that of an elder. Over time, we all grow into the lives we're given.

In this week's Parable of the Barren Fig Tree, some think God is like the owner who planted the tree, as

if God is impatient with us to begin bearing fruit and quick to uproot us if we fail. A case could be made, however, for God to be the gardener who patiently fertilizes and nurtures. In the beginning, it was God who had a garden called Eden, filled with all kinds of trees and plants among which God walked with Adam and Eve in the cool of the evening. After the resurrection, it was Mary Magdalene who went looking for the body of Jesus and mistook him for the gardener. It is God who hovers over us, watering and nudging and nurturing, waiting until in God's good time, we begin to bear fruit. ●

Reflect

***What needs nurturing in my life,
and what needs weeding out?***

**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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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. 22 Vigil
7:00 p.m. †...
Sun Mar. 23 Mass/3rd Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. Graces/Rebecca McFadden
- WKM
Tues Mar 25 Mass/Annunciation
5:30 p.m. Special Intention (E) - MK
Wed Mar 26 Mass
6:00 p.m. Special Intention (M) - MK
Sat. Mar. 29 Vigil
7:00 p.m. †Leota Hickert - RH
Sun Mar. 30 Mass/4th Sunday of Lent
Laetare Sunday
8:00 a.m. †Robert & †Mary Diamond
- GDM

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, Maria Foy,
Don Mollendor, Beverly Gebauer, Tricia
Dreher, Bibiana Camacho, John Stair,
Robert McMillion, MaryAnne Middlebrook,
Ken Richards

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

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 26, April 2, 9, 16

St. Joseph, the “Terror of Demons”?

Possibly one of the coolest titles belongs to one of the most quiet saints: St. Joseph. Joseph's unwavering faith, obedience to God's will, purity of life, and protective care over Mary and Jesus are the virtues behind the name.

Theologically, St. Joseph's designation as “**Terror of Demons**” underscores our belief in his power against evil. His role in the Holy Family places him in direct opposition to the forces of darkness. His virtues embody the antithesis of the Evil One's rebellion against God. His role as Guardian of the Holy Family helps us understand the power of all families. Just as the Holy Family's goodness and purity angered and threatened the Evil One, all families participate in God's natural design for man and the inherent goodness of the family. In this way, the Evil One is threatened by all families, making it all the more essential that we fortify ourselves spiritually.

In an age where family and faith are under assault, St. Joseph's example and protection are more needed than ever. His guardianship over the Holy Family makes him a potent intercessor for our own families as we strive to keep them safe from spiritual harm.



Anointing of the Sick
March 29/30 after each Mass

Lay Minister Schedule

March 30, 2025

Natalie Gross 620-952-9208

Greeters/Gifts: David & Anita Poss

Pianist: Julie Green

Cantor: Willeke Girls

Lector: Chad Gross

Altar Servers: D Etl, J Gertge, E Koch

Head Usher: Chris Packer

Euch Ministers: Frank & Esther Weis

March 30, 2025 Breakfast

JD & Bridgette Gertge

St. Joseph's corner: “Joseph, the seeds of your obedience and attentive listening to God were planted by the generations before you. Allow me to receive what has been planted for me and to plant those same seeds for those who come after me. Amen”

Stations of the Cross Retreat—San Luis

To life-sized stations on Sunday, March 30th. See more on the bulletin board or contact Linda Littleton or Rita Hart.

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

Saturday, April 5 / Lenten Retreat

8:15 am - 5:00 pm

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

\$20 per person / REGISTER ONLINE by

March 28th at @[https://](https://www.stmarybrush.org/lenten-retreat.html)

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

Email: office@stjosephsakron.org

* Office Hours: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM (Tuesday, Wednesday)

Dear Padre,

May I receive Communion if I'm divorced and haven't gotten an annulment?

Yes, you may. Divorce, in itself, is not an impediment to the reception of Communion. Divorce, although regrettable because of the many ramifications that may be part of the experience, is not in itself a sin. There are situations when divorce may be the most loving choice and make it possible for all parties involved to live the lives God is calling them to live.

Remarriage, when a person is not free to marry because of the presence of a previous bond, is an impediment to the reception of holy Communion. Although this situation is more and more common, it does not mean that the law of the Church, representative of the teaching of Jesus, can be set aside. As part of the process of healing from your divorce and moving on with your life, you may want to seek an annulment, particularly if you think you might want to marry again. The annulment process can often be healing and a source of great blessing. It also provides a rare opportunity to reflect on what was lost as a result of the original divorce and what can be learned as a way of moving forward and building a second marriage that is strong and life-giving.



STEVE LOVERNOVE / SHUTTERSTOCK

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*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
March 24	March 25	March 26	March 27	March 28	March 29	March 30
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>The</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>
2 Kgs 5:1-15b Lk 4:24-30	<i>Annunciation of the Lord</i> Is 7:10-14; 8:10 Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38	Dt 4:1, 5-9 Mt 5:17-19	Jer 7:23-28 Lk 11:14-23	Hos 14:2-10 Mk 12:28-34	Hos 6:1-6 Lk 18:9-14	Jos 5:9a, 10-12 2 Cor 5:17-21 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32



VATICAN MEDIA

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

I like to think that a nice name for God could be “the God of another possibility”... [God] does not look at the achievements you have not yet reached, but the fruits you can still bear. He does not keep track of your shortcomings but encourages your potential. He does not dwell on your past, but confidently bets on your future.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 20, 2022

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