



Embrace the Darkness

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

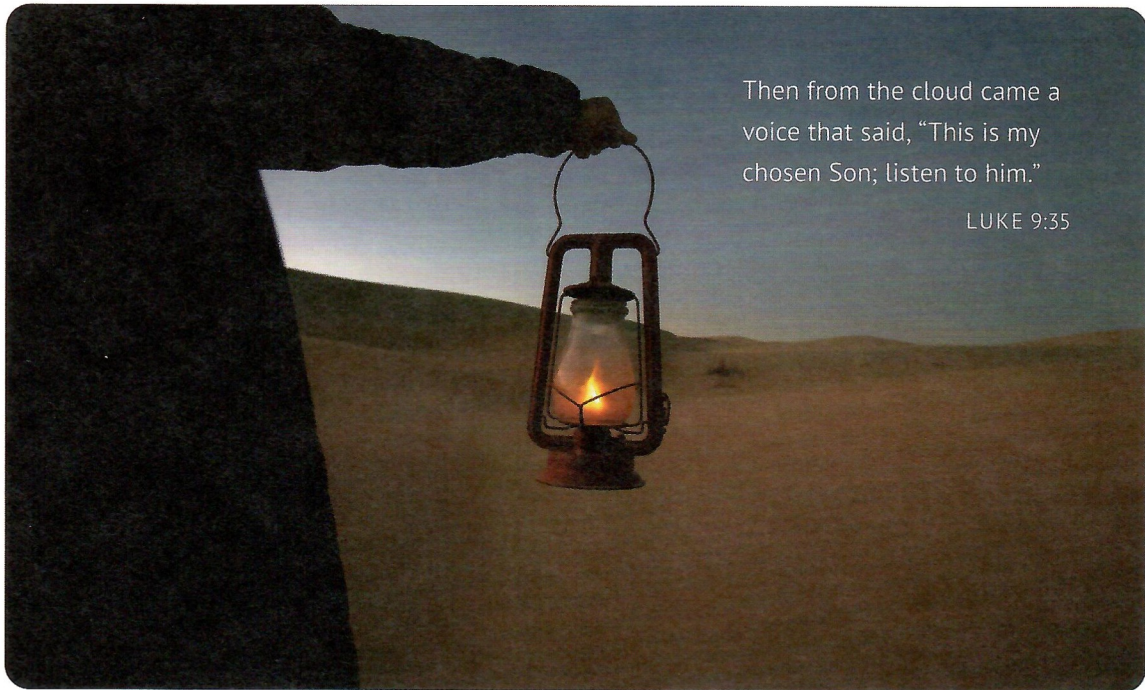
The darkness can be unsettling. As a child, my nightly bedtime ritual included checking beneath my bed as well as in the dark hall closet. One could never know what denizens of harm might be lurking there, hidden in the shadows. As adults, the darkness we fear is no longer what lies hidden about our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



**St. Mary's & St. John's
Brush CO & Stoneham CO**

Pastor: Rev. Herman Nsubuga
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Maurice Okeke

Masses:

Brush: Sat. - 5:00 PM, Sun. - 10:00 AM
Thurs. - 5:30 PM, Fri. - 8:00 AM
Stoneham: Sun. - 12:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Brush: Sat. - 3:00 PM
1/2 hr. before weekday Masses
or by appointment
Stoneham: Sun. - after Mass

Adoration & Benediction: 1st Friday of the
month immediately after Mass (till 9:00 a.m.)

Anointing of the Sick: - call the Office

Office: Thursday & Friday
Leave a message **970-842-2216**

Website: www.stmarybrush.org

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Mass Intentions

Sat Mar. 15 Vigil

5:00 p.m. †Glen Springer - JW

Sun Mar 16 Mass/2nd Sunday of Lent

10:00 a.m. †Mary Ellen Uhrig - GS

12:00 p.m. †Jan Willich - JJ

Thur Mar 20 Mass

5:30 p.m. Graces/Brad Chapman - JC

Fri Mar. 21 Mass

8:00 a.m. Graces/Justin Crego

Sat Mar. 22 Vigil

5:00 p.m. Graces/Logan Jarrell - PD

Sun Mar 23 Mass/3rd Sunday of Lent

10:00 a.m. †Sandra Garcia Madigan

12:00 p.m. †Harvey & †Peggy Ericson-JJ

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Our Sick:

Joseph Wilson, Gia Marquez, Rosa Maria Santos, Jan Yokum, Deja Adam, Kane Schrock, Bernice Padilla, Rosemary Garcia, Sean Gleason, Ben Mettlen, Arabella Macias, Brianna Hill, Gina Mortenson, Caiden Lee, Paula & Delbert Meier, Sheryl Garvik, Izaac Morales, Kayla Albrant, Stan Prather, Christy Chapman, Anthony Steven Villarreal, Shelby Daughenbaugh, Norma Wolfe, Stella, Fritz & Irene Ramirez, Amanda Weisensee, Eloy Padilla, Nadine Odell, Jennifer Romero, Pennie Haller, Armando Saucedo, Carmona Family, Leo Millburg, Gary Bloemker, Josie Contreras, Emmalyn Potts, Anne Mertens, Carter Wiedrich, Apolonio Ramirez, Felix Acosta, Aurelia Lopez, Dave Willich, Chuck Blackwelder

March 17 / 3-Hour Perpetual Adoration

Monday 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Come, spend time with the Lord!

March 18 / Bible Study
6:30 p.m. in the RE building

LENT 2025

Fridays of Lent at St. Mary
A Day of Abstinence

5:30 p.m. - STATIONS OF THE CROSS
6:00 p.m. - Knights dinner
Parish Hall (basement) /good-will offering
Dates: March 21, 28, April 4, 11

Tuesdays of Lent at St. John's:
6:00 p.m. - STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Dates: March 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15

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...”

Fast with the Right Heart

Fasting is about seeking God, not just avoiding food. Even small sacrifices matter. (Mat. 6: 17-18) – “But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face...”



March 16

Enjoy coffee & donut Sunday!
In the Parish Hall after Mass.

March 20 / Catholic Grandparents Group
Thursday, at 6:15 p.m. in the RE building

How to pray for our fallen away loved ones.
All grandparents are welcomed.
For more: call Maria at 970-405-3770

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 , Ft. Morgan, CO

REGISTER ONLINE by March 28th
\$20 per person @<https://www.stmarybrush.org/lenten-retreat.html>
No computer > use registration form

For more: **Jeanett Baker 303-902-9994**
or **Bridget Link at nocoretreat@gmail.com**

Hope and Healing After Abortions

Rachel's Vineyard Colorado
Catholic Healing Retreat, May 2 - 4
Are you or someone you know suffering from the pain of an abortion?
Learn more about our confidential retreat in Evergreen.
Call: Lori (303) 904-7414 (no texts please)
Email: Lori@rvrcolorado.org
Visit: rvrcolorado.org



Food Drive - Help feed families
Consider canned goods & items for the Brush Food pantry. Monetary donations welcomed.
Drop off at St. Mary's
Thank you for your support!

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**.