

Dear Padre,

My grandkids' parents don't want them to be baptized. Can I do it myself secretly so as not to cause problems?

Your concern is understandable, but secret baptisms are prohibited in the Catholic Church. The decision to baptize a child is determined by his or her parents. To secretly usurp their decision may cause problems of its own. For an infant to be baptized, "The parents or at least one of them or the person who legitimately takes their place must consent," and "There must be a founded hope that the infant will be brought up in the Catholic religion" (*Code of Canon Law*, 868 §1). An exception is permitted when the child's life is in immediate danger: "An infant of Catholic parents or even of non-Catholic parents is baptized licitly in danger of death, even against the will of the parents" (*CCL* 868 §2). Here, the Church's pastoral concern is for the child to receive the immediate graces from the sacrament; the question of raising the child in the faith becomes moot in a life-or-death situation.

"Since the earliest times, baptism has been administered to children, for it is a grace and a gift of God that does not presuppose any human merit.... Entry into Christian life gives access to true freedom" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1282). Continue to pray that your family may see baptism as a sign of God's love, which offers true freedom for humanity. ●



SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron J. Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV



FABRIZIO MAFFEI / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Spirit opens borders, first of all, in our hearts. He is the Gift that opens our lives to love. His presence breaks down our hardness of heart, our narrowness of

mind, our selfishness, the fears that enchain us and the narcissism that makes us think only of ourselves.... Sadly, oddly enough, in a world of burgeoning "social" media, we risk being ever more alone.

HOMILY, ROME, JUNE 8, 2025

Monday

February 16
Weekday
Jas 1:1-11
Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday

February 17
Weekday
Jas 1:12-18
Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday

February 18
Ash Wednesday
Jl 2:12-18
2 Cor 5:20-6:2
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

February 19
Thursday after
Ash Wednesday
Dt 30:15-20
Lk 9:22-25

Friday

February 20
Friday after
Ash Wednesday
Is 58:1-9a
Mt 9:14-15

Saturday

February 21
Saturday after
Ash Wednesday
Is 58:9b-14
Lk 5:27-32

Sunday

February 22
First Sunday
of Lent
Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Rom 5:12-19 or
5:12, 17-19
Mt 4:1-11

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 15, 2026
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Sirach 15:15-20 / 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 /
Matthew 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37



Some Walk Away

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No' (Matthew 5:37). This teaching of Jesus seems to get lost, perhaps because it comes at the end of a long listing of commandments. Regardless, it seems to get right to the point, almost making the other commandments unnecessary or perhaps clarifying them. Either you are going to be a child of your heavenly Father and live like one, or you are not. If you are a child of God, you would not contemplate any evil behaviors, let alone actually do them.

That is the clarity of the teaching of Jesus. It is authentic. It is compelling. It invites a response. Yet, there are those who were present with him who did not understand. Who missed the point. Who insisted on another way. Who could not discern the

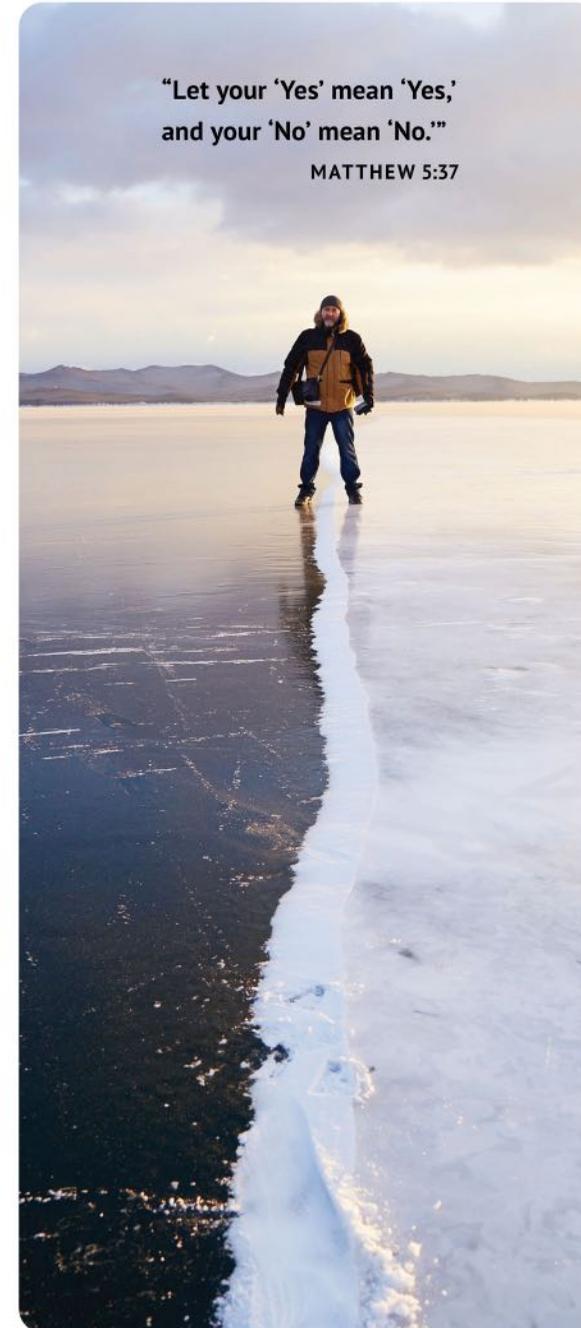
simplicity of the truth. To each of these men and women, including some with the religious title of scribe or Pharisee, he observed, "And if the light in you is darkness, how great will the darkness be" (Matthew 6:23). Even sadder is that not only did they miss the point, they also simply walked away.

Do you want to say more than a simple "Yes" or "No"? Do you want to say, "Yes, but... I can't do it now." Or "I can't forgive this particular person." Or "I can't welcome this particular stranger." Or "I can't love him or her or them."

Have you also missed the point? Do you also want to walk away? ●

Reflect

What teachings of Jesus are too hard to consider?



"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,'
and your 'No' mean 'No.'"
MATTHEW 5:37



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

St. Patrick's Catholic Church Telluride, CO

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Please visit our website & Facebook page for the most up-to-date information on Holy Mass times and other important announcements.

Pastoral Information:

Pastor: Rev. Mariusz Wirkowski

Bookkeeper: Cindy Wyszynski

DRE: Katrina Aumiller

Holy Mass & Confession Schedule:

Saturday: 5:30 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM

Tuesday - 7:00 PM; Wednesday – Friday: 8:00 AM

Holy Day of Obligation - Vigil - 5:30 PM and 8:00 AM

Confessions: 30min. prior to each Holy Mass (or by appointment)

Holy Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows Mission, Nucla.

Sunday: 12:00 Noon
Saturday 5:30 pm
Holy Days of Obligation - 6:00 PM

February 15th, 2026 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Holy Mass Intentions:

Saturday, February 14th

5:30 PM - Gordon Corn

Sunday, February 15th

9:00 AM - Missa Pro Populo

Tuesday, February 17th

7:00 PM - Declan Guiller

Wednesday, February 18th

8:00 AM - Tom & Sharon Ohlmacher

Thursday, February 19th

8:00 AM - Anthony & Teresa Ohlmacher and Family

Friday, February 20th

8:00 AM - No Holy Mass

Saturday, February 21st

5:30 PM - Missa Pro Populo

Sunday, February 22nd

9:00 AM - Barbara & Mark Hankins

If you would like to have a Holy Mass intention for your loved ones, living or deceased, please contact the Parish Office by calling: 970-728-3387 or place your request in the collection basket near the entrance of the church.
- Suggested donation for each mass is \$10.

Healing Prayers - Rezos Por Tus Curaciones

Let us pray for those who have asked for our prayers...

Kevin Kiernan, Bob Kammer, Cody Couture, Dakota Couture, Eric Block, Judy Donnelly, Mike Napolitano, Mary E. Lynch, Liz Bradley, Care Bear, Carl Carson, Joshua Nault, Phil Couture, Jose Cuaron, Kim Lynch, Allison Myer, Marianne Edward, CarolAnn O'Dea, Juan Esparza, Martha Gagliano, Stanislaw Kowalczyk

Upcoming Events: *All Are Welcome!*

First Fridays of the month - Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus - Holy Mass and Adoration - 8:00 AM.

Tuesdays: 6:00 PM- Holy Adoration. 7:00 PM – Holy Mass

Second Tuesdays of month: 7:30 PM – Men's Group

Wednesdays: 7:30 AM

Women's Group Faith Fun Fellowship – Church

Thursdays: 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration & Holy Mass - Church

First Sunday of the month - Holy Adoration 30 minutes before each Holy Mass.

Each Sunday during Summer- Coffee and donuts after 9:00 AM Holy Mass.

Last Saturday of the month - Bilingual Holy Mass

“So also we, being many, are one body in Christ, and each one is a part, the one of the other.”
Romans 12:5

Parish Announcements:

We would like to welcome all Visitors who are with us celebrating the Holy Mass this weekend.

Please check our **Parish Website /Calendar** for updated schedule of events.

Please join us for praying the Holy Rosary on Sundays before 9:00 AM Holy Mass. It starts at 8:30 AM.

Candlelight Holy Adoration and Mass on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM.

Ash Wednesday, February 18th – The Holy Masses at 8:00 AM and 7:30 PM.

No Holy Mass on Friday, February 20th.

Stations of the Cross – Fridays during Lent at 5:30 PM.

During Lent we will offer Bible Study: **“No Greater Love: Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion”**. Every Thursday night at 6:00 PM starting on February 26th.

Last Week's Collection: \$ 2,074.00

Please visit: stpatrickstelluride.com/donate to offer your financial support.

“For where your treasure is, there also is your heart.”

Mathew 6:21

Pastor's Corner

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

As Catholics prepare for the observance of Lent in 2026, understanding the guidelines for fasting and abstinence is crucial. Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of this period of reflection and repentance, falls on February 18, 2026. This year's Lenten season offers a time for spiritual growth through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, culminating in the celebration of Easter.

Fasting Regulations

For Catholics in the United States aged 18 through 59, fasting is required on Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026, and Good Friday, April 3, 2026. Fasting involves consuming one full meal a day at most, with the possibility of smaller quantities of food at other customary mealtimes. However, consuming food and drink between meals – excluding water and medicine – is not permitted on these days of fasting. What does it indicate to truly embrace this discipline in a world of constant culinary temptation?

Abstinence from Meat

Catholics aged 14 and up are called to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays during Lent, and Good Friday. Abstinence means refraining from eating the flesh, marrow, and blood products of beef, veal, pork, or poultry. However, eggs and milk products are permitted, and the consumption of fish and shellfish is allowed, though with a mindful awareness of the penitential nature of the practice.

Additional Lenten Observances

Beyond fasting and abstinence, Catholics are encouraged to deepen their faith through various practices. These include attending daily Mass, receiving Holy Communion, participating in penance services, and seeking sacramental absolution. Acts of piety, generosity to those in need, kindness towards the sick and elderly, voluntary self-denial, and fervent prayer – particularly for the intentions of the Holy Father – are also highly encouraged.

Viva Cristo Rey!