

30 March 2025  
IV Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)

Sunday Mass: Anticipated Sat. 4PM/Sun. 8AM Ancient Rite Latin Mass  
Sunday 9:30 AM (Live-streamed) & 11 AM  
Confessions: Wed. & Fri. 6:30-6:55 PM/Sat. 7:30-7:55 AM  
Sat. 2:30-3:30 PM & 6:30-7:30 PM

**THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS**

Mon. 31 Mar.	8 AM	St. Benjamin, Dcn./St. Balbina Ancient Rite Latin Mass For: Special Intention
Tue. 1 Apr.	8 AM	St. Mary of Egypt, Prostitute turned Penitent For: Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Austin+ Req: The Anderson Family Holy Rosary for the Preborn and the Newborn
Wed. 2 Apr.	7 PM	St. Francis of Paola, Hermit, Founder, Miracle-Worker For: Fr. Dominic O'Connor (L.) Req: Mr. & Mrs. Allen Kraeger
Thu. 3 Apr.	8 AM	Pope St. Sixtus I, St. Joseph the Hymnographer For: Fr. Dan Leary Req: Sheila Mills
Fri. 4 Apr.	8 AM	St. Isidore of Seville, Bishop, Doctor of the Church For: Megan Roberts+ (Birthday) Req: Her parents
Sat. 5 Apr.	8 AM	St. Vincent Ferrer, Pr., Rel., "Angel of the Apocalypse" For: Special Intention
	4 PM	For: Dakota Little+ Req: The Geiss Family
Sun. 6 Apr.	8 AM	V Sunday of Lent For: Katherine Mazor+ Req: Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Maciag
	9:30 AM	For: The Parishioners of OLGCC
	11 AM	For: Spencer + Kathy Williams+ Req: Stella Williams

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: TUE. 1 APRIL**

Jr. High School Class 7 PM    Adult Education 8 PM

**Confirmation Candidates Please Note: Rehearsal for Confirmation will be at St John the Baptist Church in Rome at 6:30 PM.**

**The Mass of Confirmation will be on Wed. 21 May at 7 PM at St John the Baptist Church in Rome.**

**ST. JOSEPH SOCIETY MEETING: THU. 3 APRIL 7 PM RECTORY**

All men of the parish are encouraged to become active members of our St. Joseph Society.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS, HOLY COMMUNION AND BENEDICTION**

**Fridays of Lent at 7 PM.** Our Lord says, "Come and see if there be any sorrow like to My sorrow" to you. Have you come to Stations this Lent? Why not?

**"CALLED FOR MORE" DIOCESAN PROGRAM**

Soon you will be receiving a survey that the Diocese is conducting to understand the various parishioners of the Diocese. We have not yet received much information about this program or the survey, but we wanted you to be apprised of it before it is made available.

**THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU: CONFESSIONS 14 APRIL 4-7 PM**

We are giving ample notice of the biannual (Advent and Lent) 3 hour Confession marathon so that you may plan to make your Confession for Easter at this time, if you so choose. Other times will be offered during Holy Week as well.

**INTERESTED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH?**

You are most welcome to investigate what Christ teaches through His holy Catholic Church to see if you can believe it. That is what it takes to be a Catholic: one must sincerely believe all that Christ teaches us through His Church, which He established to be His authoritative voice on earth: "He who hears you, hears Me."

If you are interested in exploring the teachings of Jesus Christ, please contact Father and he will be happy to explain them to you. No one is ever pressured into becoming a Catholic. The truth speaks for itself. Once you hear His voice through His Church, you will be convinced.

## PEW CENTER RESEARCH STUDY OF CATHOLICS IN U.S.

The Pew Research Center has released the results of a study it did of Catholics in the United States on 13-25 February 2024. The study was done among a nationally representative sample of 12,693 respondents, including 2,019 adults (*pastor: what were the other 10,674?*)

As we review the findings of this poll, we are aware that the responses can be influenced by the way the questions are posed and interpreted in ways that are perhaps biased. Nonetheless, such polls are telling, and when conducted by reputable pollsters, can give us significant information about the success of the evangelical mission of the Church, the state of the Church's influence on society, and the effect of the reforms of the II Vatican Council.

So, here is a summary of the findings of this poll:

73% of Catholics view Pope Francis favorably, (down 8% from the last time this question was asked in 2021, and 15% lower than when asked in 2015). In contrast, upward of 90% of American Catholics expressed favorable views of Pope John Paul II in three polls conducted between 1987 and 1996.

Many U.S. Catholics would welcome more change in the Church's positions on a host of topics:

83% want the Church to allow contraceptives.

75% say the Church should allow Catholics to receive Holy Communion even if they are unmarried and living with another "romantic partner".

69% say priests should be allowed to get married.

64% say women ought to be allowed to become priests.

54% say the Church should recognize marriages between gay and lesbian couples.

The study also shows that there are many Catholics who think that the Church should not take these steps. It shows that Catholics who mostly favor a variety of changes are largely Democrats or lean Democratic (57%), and many say that they seldom or never attend Mass (56%).

The Catholics who say that the Church should not take these steps are predominately Republicans or lean Republican (72%), and many say that they attend Mass at least once a week.

Catholics who attend Mass regularly (at least once a week) are far more inclined than those who go less often to say that the Church should take a traditional or conservative approach on questions about the priesthood and sexuality. For instance, 65% say that the Church should not recognize same-sex marriage, and 56% of regularly Mass-goers say that the Church should not ordain women.

By comparison, most Catholics who do not attend Mass weekly say that the Church should recognize same-sex marriage (61%) and ordain women (71%).

The Pew Research Center previously asked these or similar questions in surveys by telephone between 2013 and 2015. The data shows that there is an increase in the last decade or so of Catholics who favor allowing the unmarried to receive Holy Communion, and to allow the use of contraceptives. The share of Catholics who say that priests should be allowed to marry, allow women to become priests and recognize same-sex marriage is roughly the same as it was a decade ago.

*(This information is taken directly from a report on the study done by Patricia T. Tevington, Justin Nortey and Gregory A. Smith and published by the Pew Research Ctr).*