

Dear Padre,

I'm very disturbed at some clothing—or lack thereof—worn at Mass these days. I find myself being judgmental and I don't want to be. Does our *Catechism* mandate a dress code?

Being judgmental can exist on both sides of this issue: Those who dress casually or inappropriately at Mass may be seen as unmotivated and disrespectful; those who dress up may be accused of doing so not for God but to impress everyone else at Mass.

The casual-dress advocates are influenced by the current relaxed cultural norms on attire—in church and elsewhere. They rightfully point out that one's presence at Mass is more important to God than one's clothing. The dress-up advocates may believe this, too. However, the thought of actually being in God's presence at Mass determines their clothing choice.

Thus, an understanding of how the Mass is viewed today affects both casual-dress and dress-up proponents. While Catholics believe that Christ is present in all of creation and history, Christ's presence under the appearances of bread and wine is fundamental to our tradition. Moreover, a full appreciation of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist impacts far more than our outward appearances!

While the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* has no official dress guidelines, it's best to assume that most attend Mass for the same reasons as you. Essentially, most people who dress sensibly and make an effort to attend Mass are expressing their reverence and love for God.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

I invite you to think for a moment, in silence, here: Where is my interior necrosis? Where is the dead part of my soul? Where is my tomb? ...And to remove the stone, to take away the stone of shame and allow the Lord to say to us, as he said to Lazarus: "Come out!"

—HOMILY, APRIL 6, 2014

Calendar

Monday
MARCH 30
Lenten Weekday
Dn 13:1–9, 15–17,
19–30, 33–62
or 13:41c–62
Jn 8:1–11

Tuesday
MARCH 31
Lenten Weekday
Nm 21:4–9
Jn 8:21–30

Wednesday
APRIL 1
Lenten Weekday
Dn 3:14–20,
91–92, 95
Jn 8:31–42

Thursday
APRIL 2
Lenten Weekday
Gn 17:3–9
Jn 8:51–59

Friday
APRIL 3
Lenten Weekday
Jer 20:10–13
Jn 10:31–42

Saturday
APRIL 4
Lenten Weekday
Ez 37:21–28
Jn 11:45–56

Sunday
APRIL 5
Palm Sunday of the
Passion of the Lord
Mt 21:1–11
Is 50:4–7
Phil 2:6–11
Mt 26:14–27:66
or Mt 27:11–54

Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 29, 2020

Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)
Ez 37:12–14 / Rom 8:8–11
Jn 11:1–45 or 11:5–7, 17,
20–27, 33b–45

God Opens Our Graves

It is not ghosts that come out of these graves, but a second chance at life. Ezekiel compares the reestablishment of ancient Israel after the exile with the dead rising alive from their graves. They are filled with God's spirit, God's power of life, and they have a second chance at living. Only the graciousness of God could imagine such a marvel; only the power of God could accomplish it. Jesus performs an even greater marvel. He actually brings Lazarus back from death, giving him a second chance at living. Once again, only the graciousness of God could imagine such a marvel; only the power of God could accomplish it. Jesus is that graciousness and that power, as he declares: "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25).

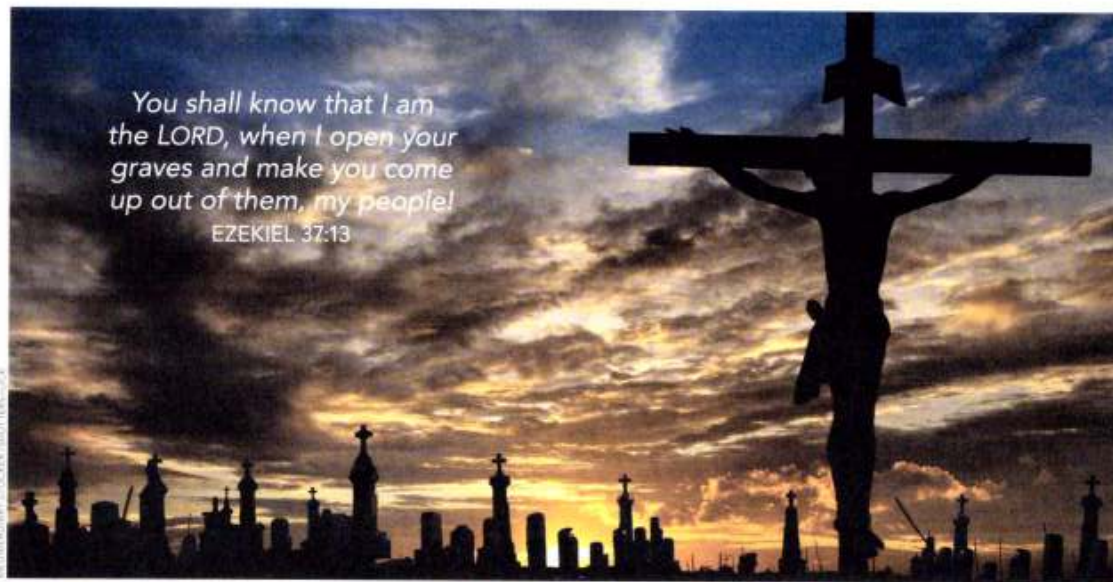
After its reestablishment, Israel was not immune to failure, nor was Lazarus exempt from eventual death. That was not the point. The point was a demonstration of divine generosity at that particular moment. As seen in the Gospel reading, the point is Jesus' self-identification: "I am the resurrection and the life." What follows is paradox: Those who live in him will not die; even if they die, they will live.

Joined to the one who is the resurrection and the life, we too will be raised from our graves and be transformed into a new life. We will never again face failure, as did the Israelites, or death, as did Lazarus, for the Spirit of Jesus will live in us.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- We were plunged into death and rose to new life at baptism. Does your life give evidence of this?
- In what ways does your life manifest the Spirit working through you?



You shall know that I am
the LORD, when I open your
graves and make you come
up out of them, my people!
EZEKIEL 37:13

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SUNDAY, March 29, 2020

Even though all public celebrations of the Holy Mass are cancelled until further notice, daily Masses are still offered by Fr. Peter. When you watch the livestreamed Mass, please remember to pray for the following Intentions

Sunday, March 29	Mary Ann Scramek
Monday, March 30	Wayne Miller
<u>Tuesday, March 31</u>	Pete Ramos
Wednesday, April 1	Pedro H. Asebedo
<u>Thursday, April 2</u>	Mary Ann Scramek
<u>Friday, April 3</u>	Wayne Miller
<u>Saturday, April 4</u>	For the People, Clarence Knoll & Steven Burgardt
<u>Sunday, April 5</u>	Anna Bergkamp, Paul Temaat

CONFESSIONS: Confessions will be heard on Saturday afternoon from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. and again on Sunday mornings at 8:00 to 8:45 am. or call for an appointment.

If you know someone who is sick and needed the sacrament of the anointing or wanted Fr. Peter to visit, please do not hesitate to call the above phone numbers

HOLY WEEK AND RCIA: All Holy Week liturgies are cancelled. We pray that this health crisis subsides, so that the Candidates and Catechumens may receive their sacraments by the Vigil of Pentecost.

SCHOLARSHIP: St. Anthony's Parish is offering of \$500 Scholarship again this year. Candidate must be a Lakin High School 2020 graduate. Applications can be found in the back of church.

RUMMAGE SALE: We will be having it again this summer (not date has been set), but if you have items you would like to donate we will gladly accept them anytime. You may call any of the following people to bring items to the hall. Tressa Powers 355-6206; Jana Jenkinson 290-5201; Carolyn Robertson 290-5569; or Gwen Waechter 355-7203.

COLLECTION for March 22, 2020: Envelopes: \$40; Loose Offering: \$20; Online Giving: \$270

Total \$ 330. Average Weekly Expense: \$1,989.55; Income over/under (1,659.55)

MEDITATION: 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

LAZARUS, COME OUT (John 11: 43) By Pope Francis

“We all have within us some areas, some parts of our heart that are not alive, that are a little dead. . . . But if we become very attached to these tombs and guard them within us and do not will that our whole heart rise again to life, we become corrupted and our soul begins to give off, as Martha says, an ‘odor’ (see John 11:39), the stench of a person who is attached to sin. And Lent has something to do with this. Because all of us . . . can hear what Jesus said to Lazarus: ‘He cried out in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”’ (11:43). “Today I invite you to think for a moment: Where is the dead part of my soul? Where is my tomb? . . . Let us think: what part of the heart can be corrupted because of my attachment to sin, one sin or another? And to remove the stone, to take away the stone of shame and allow the Lord to say to us, as he said to Lazarus, “Come out!” That all our soul might be healed, might be raised by the love of Jesus, by the power of Jesus. He is capable of forgiving us. We all need it! All of us. We are all sinners, but we must be careful not to become corrupt! Sinners we may be, but he forgives us. Let us hear that voice of Jesus who, by the power of God, says to us, ‘Come out! Leave that tomb you have within you. Come out. I give you life, I give you happiness, I bless you, I want you for myself.’

“May the Lord today, on this Sunday, which speaks so much about the resurrection, give us all the grace to rise from our sins, to come out of our tombs; with the voice of Jesus, calling us to go out, to go to him. “*Jesus, I hear you calling. Help me to rise from my sins.*”

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES: Do not fear what may happen tomorrow; the same everlasting Father who cares for you today, will care for you tomorrow and everyday. He will either shield you from suffering, or give you unfailing strength to bear it. So be at peace, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations.

ONE “OUR FATHER PRAYER”: You’re invited to pray together as a community of faith for our nation, for all affected by the coronavirus, and for the safety of all our community members at 3 pm each day. Please pause in whatever you are doing and say the Lord’s Prayer. Thank you.