

Dear Padre,

Can people convert to Catholicism only during Lent and Easter?

People can convert to Catholicism at any time, but Lent and Easter are especially associated with the journey of believers into our communion.

If a person is in danger of imminent death, reception into the Church can happen in a matter of moments at any time during the year. However, most



people who want to join the Church needn't rush. The Church can gradually tutor them in the life and faith of the community over the course of a year or more. Adult converts normally do this through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), which helps move people from a stage of curiosity and inquiry into fully conscious and active participation in the

faith and life of the Church. It does this while attending to the rhythm of the Church's liturgical year.

Lent plays a key role in the RCIA as a season of intense spiritual preparation for those who will be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. The Easter season is the traditional time for new converts to engage in the period of mystagogy—when they explore with the faith community the significance of the mysteries they're now living in their baptism, confirmation, and celebration of the Eucharist.

Fr. Matthew Allman, CSsR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Fasting, prayer and almsgiving, as preached by Jesus, enable and express our conversion. The path of poverty and self-denial (fasting), concern and loving care for the poor (almsgiving), and childlike dialogue with the Father (prayer) make it possible for us to live lives of sincere faith, living hope, and effective charity.

LENTE MESSAGE FOR 2021, NOVEMBER 11, 2020

Calendar

Monday
MARCH 21
Lenten Weekday
2 Kgs 5:1–15ab
Lk 4:24–30

Tuesday
MARCH 22
Lenten Weekday
Dn 3:25, 34–43
Mt 18:21–35

Wednesday
MARCH 23
Lenten Weekday
Dt 4:1, 5–9
Mt 5:17–19

Thursday
MARCH 24
Lenten Weekday
Jer 7:23–28
Lk 11:14–23

Friday
MARCH 25
The Annunciation of the Lord
Is 7:10–14; 8:10
Heb 10:4–10
Lk 1:26–38

Saturday
MARCH 26
Lenten Weekday
Hos 6:1–6
Lk 18:9–14

Sunday
MARCH 27
Fourth Sunday of Lent
Jos 5:9a, 10–12
2 Cor 5:17–21
Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective
Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 20, 2022

Third Sunday of Lent (C)

Ex 3:1–8a, 13–15

1 Cor 10:1–6, 10–12

Lk 13:1–9

I Am!

If you have ever tried to explain a profound experience of love, fear, or excitement; of music, nature, or life itself, you know that no words can adequately capture the essence of that experience. If it is thus with a human experience, what must it be like with an experience of God?

Such was the situation with Moses. He came upon a bush that was burning, yet not burning up. He probably thought that this was an unfamiliar natural phenomenon. It was only as he got closer, and a voice spoke to him that he realized it was not natural at all. It was a sacred event unfolding at a sacred place. There God said: "I am the God of your father" (Exodus 3:6). This was an identification, but not a name. It was only later when Moses asks for God's personal name that God's real identity was revealed. Or was it?

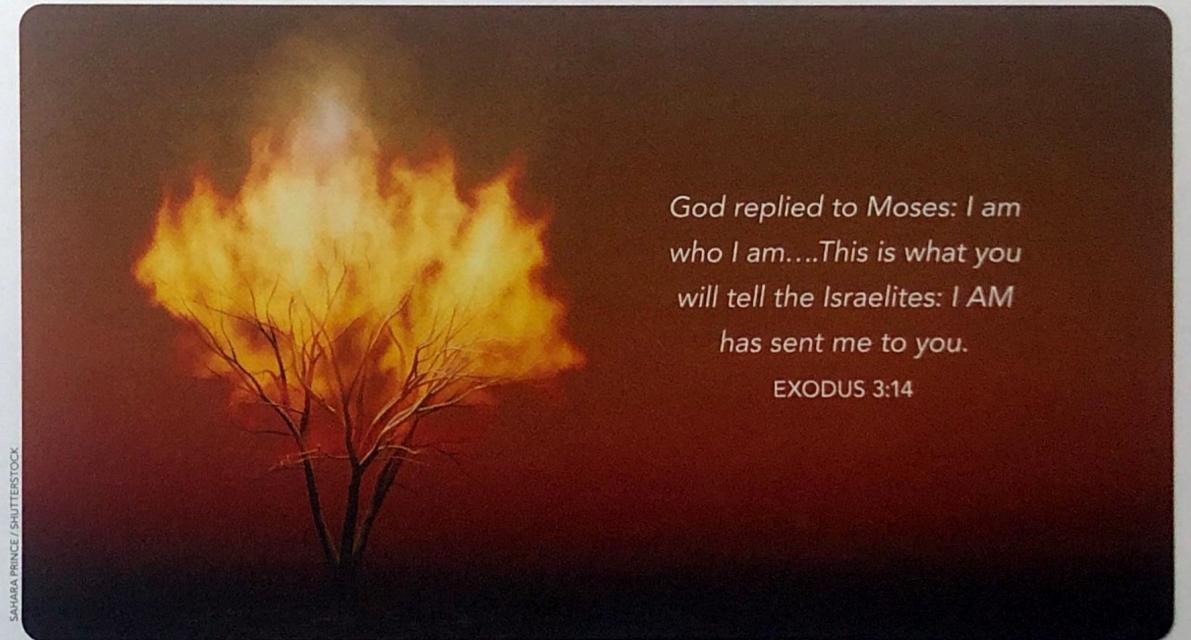
Scholars agree that the name given is some form

of the verb "to be," but they are not in agreement as to which form. Is it "I am who I am," "I will be who I will be," or "I cause to be what has come to be"? The name indicates that God is the power of existence, but it is not clear what this means or how it works. Some commentators maintain that God is telling Moses and us: *This is as close to my full identity as you can come. You wouldn't understand it anyway. Be satisfied knowing that "I Am."*

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ Reflect on this idea: profound human experiences open our minds and hearts to the experience of God.
- ★ Remember, this mysterious incomprehensible God cares for each of us.



God replied to Moses: I am who I am....This is what you will tell the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you.

EXODUS 3:14



Rectory & Parish Office

600 Soderberg St. Lakin, KS 67860

Mailing Address: PO Box 983

Fr. Peter Tran, Pastor—355-6405

Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Email: saintanthonylakin@gmail.com

Website: saintanthonylakin.org

Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee	355-6388
Lisa Gannett, DRE	355-6611
RCIA	355-6405
Gwen Waechter, Parish Council Chair	272-1030
Tressa Powers, Finance Council Chair	355-6206
Altar Society President, Nanette Rice	355-7676
Tom Bachman, Grand Knight	640-8259
Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek & Nanette Rice	355-1696 355-7676

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Mar. 19	4:00 p.m.	For the People
Sunday, Mar. 20	9:00 a.m.	For rain
Monday, Mar. 21	NO MASS	Harold Smith
Tuesday, Mar. 22	NO MASS	Charles & Eileen Hoff
Thursday, Mar. 24	NO MASS	Special Int. –Burden
Friday, Mar. 25	NO MASS	Special Int.-Power
Saturday, Mar. 26	4: 00 p.m.	For the People
Sunday, Mar. 27	9:00 a.m	Marlyn Morrison

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (color: Violet)

3/12/2022 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Maggie Gannett, Jonathan Gannett, Nathan Gannett

Reader: Tom Bachman

3/13/2022 –Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Kirbe Koons, Taybree Lohman-Fuller, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

Reader: Mike Broeckelman

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (color: Violet)

3/26/2022 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Maggie Gannett, Jonathan Gannett, Nathan Gannett

Reader: Gwen Waechter

3/27/2022–Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Cade Berning, Jace Berning, Luke Woodrow

Reader: Alvin Bergkamp

Reconciliation: Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

Baptism: Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

Marriage: Please contact parish priest at least four to six months before the wedding.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 20, 2022



In the Gospel Reading from Luke this third Sunday of Lent we hear Jesus telling the people to “repent” and to basically stop trying figure out the righteousness of other people. Jesus wants them to take a deep look inward so that they can be better at loving outward --- look at their own individual lives, their own individual hearts, and ask themselves how they each can be better, how they each can be more faithful, how they each can bear fruit.

My friends, spiritual pride is a dangerous place to be. It can lead us to believe that we are on sure-footing, that there is nothing in us that needs to change, that God is completely pleased with us and that other people are the problem.

May we always remember the dangers of spiritual over-confidence, the dangers that come with believing that we are more faithful than others, or that we can go it alone.

And so, let’s each embrace a life of true humility --- the kind that opens our hearts and minds to all the wonderful things God wants to achieve through us. May your Lenten journey continue to be fruitful.

Fr. Peter

COLLECTION for March 13th, 2022: Envelopes: \$295; Loose: \$294; Online Giving: \$1602.67; Total \$2191.67; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under +430.50

CHURCH PROJECT GOAL \$52000—Last weekend contribution: \$459; Building Fund To Date: \$7,388.26

Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards.

SINCERE SYMPATHY & PRAYERS Our deepest sympathy and prayers to you and your family, on the passing of your beloved husband and father, Dennis Hernandez. May the Almighty God wrap His loving arms around you and the entire family and give you peace. May he rest in peace.

CONFIRMATION THIS YEAR The Confirmation Mass for our confirmation candidates will be on April 2nd at 1:00 p.m. Please pray for them and their parents that they will open their hearts to receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

LENT 2022 CONFESSIONS Please make an extra effort to attend our parish reconciliation Sunday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m. to reconcile with God, the Church, and with others in order to be ready ourselves to celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of the Lord. Fr. Peter will also be available every Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30; every Saturday from 3:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. and every Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:50 a.m. or by appointment.

CCD LENT CONFESSIONS THIS YEAR March 23rd at 6:30 p.m.—3rd and 4th grade; March 30th at 6:30 p.m.—5th and 6th grade.

SOUP & SERMON St. Anthony's and Christ, the King parishes will be in charge of Soup and Sermon on April 6.

EASTER FLOWERS If you want to send flowers in memory of a Loved One for Easter, please put your donation and names into the regular collection

CRS RICE BOWL Please pick up your Rice Bowl at the church vestibule and make it part of your Lenten Practice of Almsgiving.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Praying the "Stations of the Cross" is one of the most popular devotions for Roman Catholic and is often performed in a spirit of reparation for the sufferings and insults that Jesus endured during His Passion. The object of the Stations is to help us make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer, through meditating upon the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death. **We hold Stations of the Cross led by Knights of Columbus every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. during Lent. We hope you will join us for this prayerful devotion.** A plenary indulgence may be gained by praying the Stations of the Cross.

VALUE THEM BOTH The statewide campaign to pass the Value Them Both amendment for life is heating up. The abortion industry is raising money and getting their message out through a sympathetic secular news media. Our most effective efforts are at the grassroots level - that's you! PLEASE CONSIDER VOTING "YES" ON AUGUST 2ND Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn, we implore your powerful intercession at this most critical time. Now that the Kansas Supreme Court has removed lifesaving protections for the unborn and mothers in crisis, we humbly ask that you strengthen our efforts to secure an amendment to reverse this decision and defend the sanctity of life in our state.

VOCATION VIEW "I AM sent me to you." Could the Lord be calling you to proclaim His name as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life?

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT The parable in today's Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. While God mercifully provides us with time and opportunity, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity!

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (adapted from prayers by John A. Hardon, SJ) Dear Lord, you have entrusted time to us for the up building of our soul. Time is yours, not ours. On the day of judgment you will reward us according to the use we made of this gift. Teach us to value time. Show us the dangers of idleness. Keep us from wasting the time that we have. Make us diligent and hard-working, generous and self-giving, cheerful and patient. Above all, may we be motivated by our strong love for you and for others. We ask this in the great and holy name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Luke 13:1-5)

What happened? Galileans were Jews from Galilee, a region north of Judea. Here they seem to have traveled south to sacrifice animals in the Jerusalem temple. For reasons now unknown to us, Pontius Pilate, the Roman administrator of Judea, had them killed. Siloam (sigh-LOH-um) was a part of ancient Jerusalem. In the Gospel of John we learn that the area was trenched to hold water (John 9:7). It seems that a section of a tower built into the wall that enclosed the city collapsed, killing the people inside it.

What's your point, Jesus? Jesus makes it clear that neither of the two groups of people deserved to die any more (or less) than his listeners. Death caught them off-guard. Jesus draws from these terrible circumstances to make the broader point that people should change their lives now, while there's still time. More specifically, people should accept that Jesus is bringing about God's kingdom and conform their lives to God's rule while there's still time. Those who deny that God is establishing his reign through Jesus will ultimately be excluded from salvation.

The fig tree The parable clarifies the meaning of verses 1-5. People are given time to repent, but that time will eventually end. This is the main point of the parable, but it's not the only meaning to draw from it. Parables invite reflection and discussion because they don't mean only one thing.

Foreshadowings Luke may also intend for verses 1-5 to point to future events. • Like his fellow Galileans, Jesus will be killed by Pilate. (And Jesus is certainly not a worse sinner than his listeners!) • When the Jews rebel against Roman rule during 66-70 AD, blood is spilled and walls fall as the Romans destroy the Jerusalem temple and parts of the city (www.oursundayreadings)

UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING (Exodus 3:1-8a,13-15)

Back to Egypt This story unfolds when the Israelites are enslaved in Egypt. Moses fled after killing an Egyptian for beating an Israelite. Moses has since married and wasn't planning a visit to Egypt.

LORD of history God promised Abraham and his descendants a land of their own. God will now fulfill this promise by taking the remarkable step of leading his people out of one land and into another. People of that era believed that gods were confined to a place. The LORD God is not. He will instead bind himself to a particular people.

What the name means God gives his name as YHWH, often written as LORD so that people don't say this holy name aloud. Because the precise meaning of YHWH is unclear, the name is a warning not to use God's name in an attempt to control God. The name is also God's promise to stand with Moses and the Israelites, who in this moment represent the weakest, most vulnerable members of society. (www.oursundayreadings)

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Question: When I learned the second precept of the Church as a child it was: “To go to confession once a year if you have mortal sin.” The current Catechism states on the second precept: “You shall confess your sins at least once a year” (2042). Have the bishops changed the second precept on their authority? — Ed Smetana

Answer: The Catechism, while less than exact in the quote you supply, does footnote Canon 989 for greater precision, which says, “All the faithful who have reached the age of discretion are bound faithfully to confess their grave sins at least once a year.” The Catechism states elsewhere: “According to the Church’s command, ‘after having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year.’ Anyone who is aware of having committed a mortal sin must not receive Holy Communion, even if he experiences deep contrition, without having first received sacramental absolution, unless he has a grave reason for receiving Communion and there is no possibility of going to confession” (1457). Therefore, there is no change in the precept, though one may admit the Catechism could have been more precise in the text you cite. That said, it may be of some pastoral advantage to remember that there is a tendency today to minimize the possibility and frequency of mortal sin. It is not hard to understand that most of the adult faithful ought to be getting to confession more than once a year. It is quite likely that most adults, even if not guilty of sins against life and sexual purity, are often guilty of rather serious sins against charity. It is quite possible to cause serious harm and emotional or spiritual distress to people by harsh things we say. Further, lies can cause more than minimal harm, reputations can be tainted, people misled, and error flourish. Sins of omission through greed, neglect, or laziness can also cause grave harm. Missing Mass is a mortal sin, and being significantly neglectful in handing on or defending the Faith can also become quite serious. More could be said here, but one ought not to causally dismiss that they should get to confession even more than once a year. The Church encourages the faithful to confess frequently even if they are not aware of mortal sin since the Sacrament of Penance not only confers the grace of absolution, but also the grace to avoid sin in the future. (Monsignor Charles Pope)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Something to smile about

The International Day of Happiness celebrated today isn't about wearing a smiley face. This U.N.-sponsored observance has concrete aims: to end poverty, reduce inequality, and protect the planet. Certainly that would bring happiness, but how do we attain such lofty goals? Consider 19-year-old Catherine Spaulding (1793-1853), who led six women in the forming of the Sisters of Nazareth in Kentucky. Ready or not, Catherine ran a school, orphanage, and nursed the sick during epidemics. Neither age nor inexperience deterred her sisters from answering the needs of their society. Answer this generation's call and discover a reason to smile. (Prepare the Word)

TERCER DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

Un motivo para sonreír

El Día Internacional de la Felicidad que se celebra hoy no consiste en mostrar una cara sonriente. Esta celebración patrocinada por la ONU tiene objetivos concretos: acabar con la pobreza, reducir la desigualdad y proteger el planeta. Sin duda, eso produciría felicidad, pero ¿cómo se consiguen objetivos tan elevados? Pensemos en Catherine Spaulding (1793-1853), de 19 años, que dirigió a seis mujeres en la formación de las Sisters of Nazareth (Hermanas de Nazaret) en Kentucky. Preparada o no, Catherine dirigió una escuela, un orfanato y cuidó a los enfermos durante las epidemias. Ni la edad ni la inexperience disuadieron a sus hermanas de responder a las necesidades de su sociedad. Responde al llamado de esta generación y descubre un motivo para sonreír.