

Dear Padre,

I've offered many Masses for wife and family, thinking if perhaps they are in Purgatory, it would help shorten their time. How can we tell if our prayers and Masses are beneficial? How do we know?

It has been a long- and well-established expression of Catholic faith and practice to pray for the departed. Our prayers help us as we grieve and mourn the passing of the people we love. Our prayers help us keep their passing in perspective—not as the end of something, but rather as the beginning of new life in Christ. This is beneficial and needs no further evidence to illustrate the value of the practice.

Your question, on the other hand, goes beyond what the tradition emphasizes. It seems like you are seeking some sort of guarantee or warranty, which you assume will be reassuring. Unfortunately, there is no guarantee or warranty either promised or implied in this spiritual practice. In death, indeed in the whole of Christian life, we bump up against mystery, not certitude. We are invited to enter into the mystery. To grow in the mystery. To be graced by the mystery. Nothing more is possible. We hope because we believe. We believe because we practice what we hope for. ●



REBATA SEDMAKOVA / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



FAUSTO RENIDA / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

A very widespread ailment of our time is the fatigue of living: reality seems to us to be too complex, burdensome, difficult to face. And so, we switch off, we fall asleep.... But reality has to be faced.... Let us go to Jesus: he can heal us; he can revive us. Jesus is our hope!

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, JUNE 25, 2025

Monday

MARCH 23

Lenten Weekday

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

Tuesday

MARCH 24

Lenten Weekday

Nm 21:4–9
Jn 8:21–30

Wednesday

MARCH 25

The Annunciation of the Lord

Is 7:10–14; 8:10
Heb 10:4–10
Lk 1:26–38

Thursday

MARCH 26

Lenten Weekday

Gn 17:3–9
Jn 8:51–59

Friday

MARCH 27

Lenten Weekday

Jer 20:10–13
Jn 10:31–42

Saturday

MARCH 28

Lenten Weekday

Ez 37:21–28
Jn 11:45–56

Sunday

MARCH 29

Palm Sunday of the Lord

Mt 21:1–11
Is 50:4–7
Phil 2:6–11
Mt 26:14–27:66 or 27:11–54

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

March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)

Ezekiel 37:12–14 / Romans 8:8–11 / John 11:1–45 or 11:3–7, 17, 20–27, 33b–45



I Am the Resurrection

ANN M. GARRIDO

The prophets before Jesus had long spoken of God's dreams for our world. In seasons of darkness and despair, they would offer snapshots of hope for what it would be like in the "kingdom of God." Those who were blind would see. Those unable to walk would dance. Those imprisoned would be free. And those who had died would be raised to life again.

In today's gospel, we hear that Martha shared in the prophets' hope. When Jesus tells her that her brother Lazarus will rise, she replies, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." In other words, Martha believes in the coming "kingdom of God." But then, Jesus stuns her with his response: "I am the resurrection and the life." That is, "I am the kingdom of God."

Origen of Alexandria—a third-century theologian—spoke of Jesus as the *autobasileia*. The term comes from two Greek words: *auto*, meaning "self," and *basileia*, meaning "kingdom." It was his way of expressing that Jesus was the fulfillment of all that the prophets had preached. He was all of God's dreams for us manifest, not as had been anticipated in a future time, but in a living person.

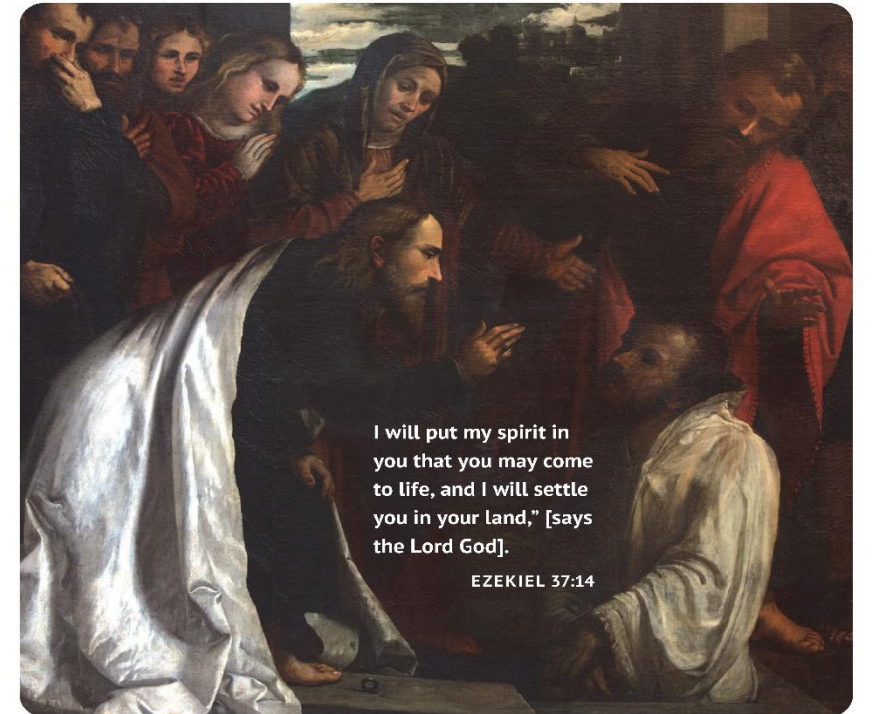
We still wait for God's dreams to be realized on a global scale, but, like Martha, we have seen what that realization will look like already in our experience of Jesus. With Martha, we can confess that he is "the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world." ●

Reflect

Where do I see signs or snapshots of the kingdom of God?



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



I will put my spirit in you that you may come to life, and I will settle you in your land," [says the Lord God].

EZEKIEL 37:14

St. Genevieve Catholic Parish

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Carmen Merrill, Dennis Doyle, Tom Leuschen,
April Stephens, Alicia Brown

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Gatlin, Tom Flynn

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Altar Servers: Caleb Knox, Zach Knox

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Julie Wehmeyer 425-830-0904

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Gale Haley 509-765-0653

Nancy Kirner 253-370-0798

Bill Wehmeyer 425-941-9171

RECONCILIATION: (Confession) available, following Mass, on
Sunday and Wednesday – please contact Fr. Pedro, before mass, to confirm
availability. Also by appointment.

BAPTISM: Please contact the Deacon or Pastor, at least one month prior to
desired date.

SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE: Please contact the Deacon or Pastor
at least six months prior to desired date.

On line donations for February: \$1490.00

Weekly Budget: \$1,255.00

03/08/26: \$1362.00

03/15/26: \$890.00.

Building Fund Donations: \$0.00

Signup for On-line Giving at methowcatholic.org.

THANK YOU!

Fridays in Lent
@ 5 pm Stations of the Cross
With Soup/Bread Simple Supper following



Thank you to all who volunteer and share!



CAFFEINE & CALORIES: The weekly social hour continues, after Mass.
Please consider *hostina C & C*. Contact Alicia Brown for info. 509-429-1621.



BUILDING COMMITTEE

People with ideas about the new parish hall, especially those with building
skills, are welcome to Contact the Building Committee.

PARENTS: Please do not allow your children to play on/around the new block
retaining wall. Thank you!



The Cove is always in need of toilet paper. Pet
food is especially needed in the winter.
Donations can be left in the basket at the side
door.

**WELCOME! NO MATTER WHAT YOUR PRESENT OR PAST STATUS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, NO MATTER YOUR
PERSONAL HISTORY, AGE, RACE OR BACKGROUND, YOU ARE INVITED, WELCOMED, ACCEPTED, AND LOVED AT ST.
GENEVIEVE CATHOLIC PARISH.**

Mass Schedule:

Sunday, Mar 22 @ 11:00 am, Fifth Sunday in Lent,

Rosary @ 10:20 am

Wednesday, Mar 25 @ 9:30 am, Rosary at 9:00 am

**Sunday, Mar 29 @ 11:00 am, Palm Sunday of The Passion of
the Lord Rosary @ 10:20 am**



Liturgy of the Word

Ezekiel 37:12–14 The Lord says: I will open your graves.

Psalms 130 "With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption."

Romans 8:8–11 The life-giving Spirit dwells in us.

John 11:1–45 or 11: 3-7, 17, 20–27, 33b–45, The Lord says: Lazarus, come out!

From the first reading to the Gospel, new life is promised for those who believe. Through
Ezekiel, God promises the Israelites that one day they will rise from their graves and have
God's spirit put in them. Saint Paul proclaims that God will give life to our mortal bodies
through the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. Jesus calls Lazarus forth from the tomb, giving new
life to his friend after he had been dead for four days. May God's word affirm and
strengthen our faith in the Lord's power to give new life.

Question of the Week: What sins are keeping me entombed, isolated from God's
love and from others? What can I do to free myself from my tomb?



ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIAPER DRIVE for CARENET: continues until April 5. Donations can
be left at the church entrances—**THANK YOU!**



*Please
Remember
in Your
Prayers*

Judy Dayharsh
Dayharsh Family
Cor Bader
Wannita Knox
Malachi Knox
Jeff Springer
Hal Groat
Peter Leon Guerrero
John Spannuth
Joseph Carbajal
Mark Crum
Jim Perra
Brooke Stendera
Sheila Kerr
Jonathan Kessler
Fr. Sean Thomson
Thomson Family
Evangeline Grace Knox
Melissa Larson
Howard Burcham
Terry & Barb Anderson
Bernice Morgan
Fred Nowicki
Bode Maxwell



Rest of the Soul of

Robert Springer
Mary Cucci