

Dear Padre,

I'm marrying my girlfriend! Although she grew up Catholic, she doesn't practice the faith. Is it still OK to marry her?

Will you enter marriage with your fiancée because of a mutual love for each other? Do you both understand that this love will be strengthened by the sacramental grace of your matrimonial union, a grace you will receive because of baptism, not practice? Will you both try to create a loving family and, together as a family, try to be open each day to the grace of God already at work in your lives? Do you both realize that this grace calls you to create, in the name of Jesus, a witness to the truth of the gospel, which is even more powerful than the love you share?

If you hesitate to answer any of these questions with a wholehearted "yes," then consider exploring these questions together with your pastor or another person helping to prepare you for marriage. Perfect faith is not required for a good, sacramental marriage. Openness to faith is believing that the Lord who has brought you together is not yet finished with either of you. You both have more to learn, and, with God's grace, you will respond to his love. Jesus will work through both of you in ways that you may not even be able to imagine. In that spirit, marry her, build a life together, and know that God's plan for you will always be there. ●

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



FINDA DIMBERKAWA / SHUTTERSTOCK

St. Agnes • St. Boniface • St. John the Evangelist

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Believing Is Seeing

MIGUEL DULICK

We celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring, which is also the first Sunday after Passover. The whole history of the world comes to this point, and today's gospel catches the eternal thrill of that day. A desperate Mary Magdalen cannot find her Lord in the tomb. Thinking that his body has been stolen, she alerts the apostles. Peter and John go running, and a moment of unforgettable suspense follows as first Peter and then John enter the tomb. The details are significant. They saw the burial cloths there and "the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place" (John 20:7). Thieves would not have taken

the time to unwrap the body and fold the face cloth. These details are intended to point to the truth of the resurrection. They saw and believed!

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles follows the story of the centurion Cornelius, the first prominent pagan convert. (His story is fascinating—take time to read it this week.) Peter gives a speech including a kind of catechism that had been standardized in a formula repeated at least six times in Acts. This proclamation, or *kerygma*, incorporates the message and the motivation for a change of life. God anointed Jesus, raised him from the dead, and promised that all who believe in him will be forgiven their sins and rise with him. Happy Easter! ●

Reflect

Why do I believe in the resurrection, and how does my belief impact my life?



Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed.

JOHN 20:8

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Holy Saturday...is the day in which heaven visits earth most deeply. It is the time in which every corner of human history is touched by the light of Easter.... Nothing can be excluded from [Christ's] redemption. Not even our nights, not even our oldest faults, not even our broken bonds. There is no past so ruined, no history so compromised

that it cannot be touched by mercy.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, SEPTEMBER 24, 2025



MARCO JACOBELLI / SHUTTERSTOCK

Easter Sunday (A) April 5, 2026

Today we begin the Easter Season, our 50-day meditation on the mystery of Christ's Resurrection. Our Gospel today tells us about the disciples' discovery of the empty tomb. It concludes by telling us that they did not yet understand that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thus, the details provided are not necessarily meant to offer proof of the Resurrection. The details invite us to reflect upon a most amazing gift, that is faith in Jesus and his Resurrection.

Simon Peter and the beloved disciple race to the tomb, presumably to verify Mary's report. The beloved disciple arrives first but does not enter the tomb until after Simon Peter. This detail paints a vivid picture, as does the detail provided about the burial cloths. Some scholars believe that the presence of the burial cloths in the tomb offers evidence to the listener that Jesus' body had not been stolen (it is understood that grave robbers would have taken the burial cloths together with the body).

The Gospel passage concludes, however, that even having seen the empty tomb and the burial cloths, the disciples do not yet understand about the Resurrection. In the passage that follows, Mary of Magdala meets Jesus but mistakes him for the gardener. In the weeks ahead, the Gospel readings from our liturgy will show us how the disciples came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection through his appearances to them. Our Easter faith is based on their witness to both the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with Jesus—in his appearances and in his gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Mass Schedule & Intentions
For the week of April 6, 2025**

Mon.	Apr.	06	7:00 AM	SJ	No Mass
Tues.	Apr.	07	7:00 AM	SJ	No Mass
Wed.	Apr.	08	5:30 PM	SA	No Mass
Thurs.	Apr.	09	5:30 PM	SB	No Mass
Fri.	Apr.	10	8:30 AM	SJ	No Mass
Sun.	Apr.	12	8:00 AM	SJ	Monica Kramer Family
Sun.	Apr.	12	9:30 AM	SA	Jeani Davenport †
Sun.	Apr.	12	11:00 AM	SB	People of the Parish



Jesse Bunner Apr. 9th
Richard Peterson Apr. 10

***Congratulations
Emma Allison Opela
on your baptism.!***

**Quotes for Today April 5
Saint Vincent Ferrer (1350-1419)**

“If you truly want to help the soul of your neighbor, you should approach God first with all your heart. Ask him simply to fill you with charity, the greatest of all virtues.”

Ministry Schedule

Date: April 12	St John's	St Agnes	St Boniface
Time	<u>Sunday 8:00 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 9:30 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 11:00 AM</u>
Hospitality	Cole & Lacy K.	Sue D. & Pam L.	Donnie & Molly P.
Lector	Tara B.	Pam L.	Bartley B.
Server	Kelsey A. & Avery B.		Ellie P. & Hunter D.
EMHC	Jon & Molly W.	Sue D. & Pam L.	Mike P. & Rod B.
	Music: Kristy O.		<i>Communion to shut ins</i> Mike P.

St. John's
Our Gifts to God & Church
March 29, 2026
Total Collection: \$314.25

Diocesan Appeal
Dollar Goal the
GOAL is MET!!!

CCD Wed, April 1
PreK to 5th 3:40 PM
6th -12th Supper 6:30
Class Begins 7:00 PM

Chaplet of Divine Mercy
after Mass April 12th

First Communion and Mass
Saturday April 18th with a
potluck to follow

Parish Council Sunday
April 19th

St. Agnes
Our Gifts to God & Church
March 29, 2026
Total Collection: \$226.00

Diocesan Appeal
Dollar Goal the
GOAL is MET!!!

Thrift Store
Open April 10 9AM to 4PM
CCD Wed April 1
Elementary 3:40 PM
High School 7:30 PM

First Communion Sunday
April 12th with a potluck to
follow

Parish Council Wednesday
April 22nd at 6 PM

St. Boniface
Our Gifts to God & Church
March 29, 2026
Total Collection: \$1467.50

Diocesan Appeal
Dollar Goal the
GOAL is MET!!!

CCD Wed. April 1
PreK to 2nd 4-5 PM
Supper 6:10
Class 6:30 to 7:30 PM

First Reconciliation
Sat. April 11th
First Communion
Sun. April 12th

Parish Council Thursday
April 23rd 6 PM

Easter Flowers in Memory of:

*Conrad & Theresa Wildhagen – Carl & Barbara Wildhagen – Matt & Mary Smith –
Jane Wilson – Joe Brogan – Joy Brogan – Josephine Amerin – Jack Brogan – Mark Pandorf
– Richard Ridder – Wally & Cecelia Allison – Chuck & Margaret Opela – Steve & Kodie
Norak – Kevin Allison – Jerome Vieyra – John & Norma Schacher – Kaye & Vincent Venhaus
– Mark Kramer – Dean & Bev Lehmkuhler – Joyce & Al Bemiss – Vernon Brosius –
Kerri Brosius*