



Waiting, but Quick!

MIGUEL DULICK

This is the first Sunday of Advent, and the excitement is palpable. Writing 800 years before Christ, the prophet Isaiah sounds like breaking news: “They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.” The psalmist announces we are already there: “And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem.” Saint Paul tickles our fancy with another whole round of “revelation” yet to come “on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Only Jesus himself seems a little cautious: “Be watchful! Be alert!” The Lord “is coming,” but he’s not here yet. Leave it to Jesus to force the paradox for which Advent seems to have been created: Jesus is present, but we dare not “sleep,” lest we miss him!

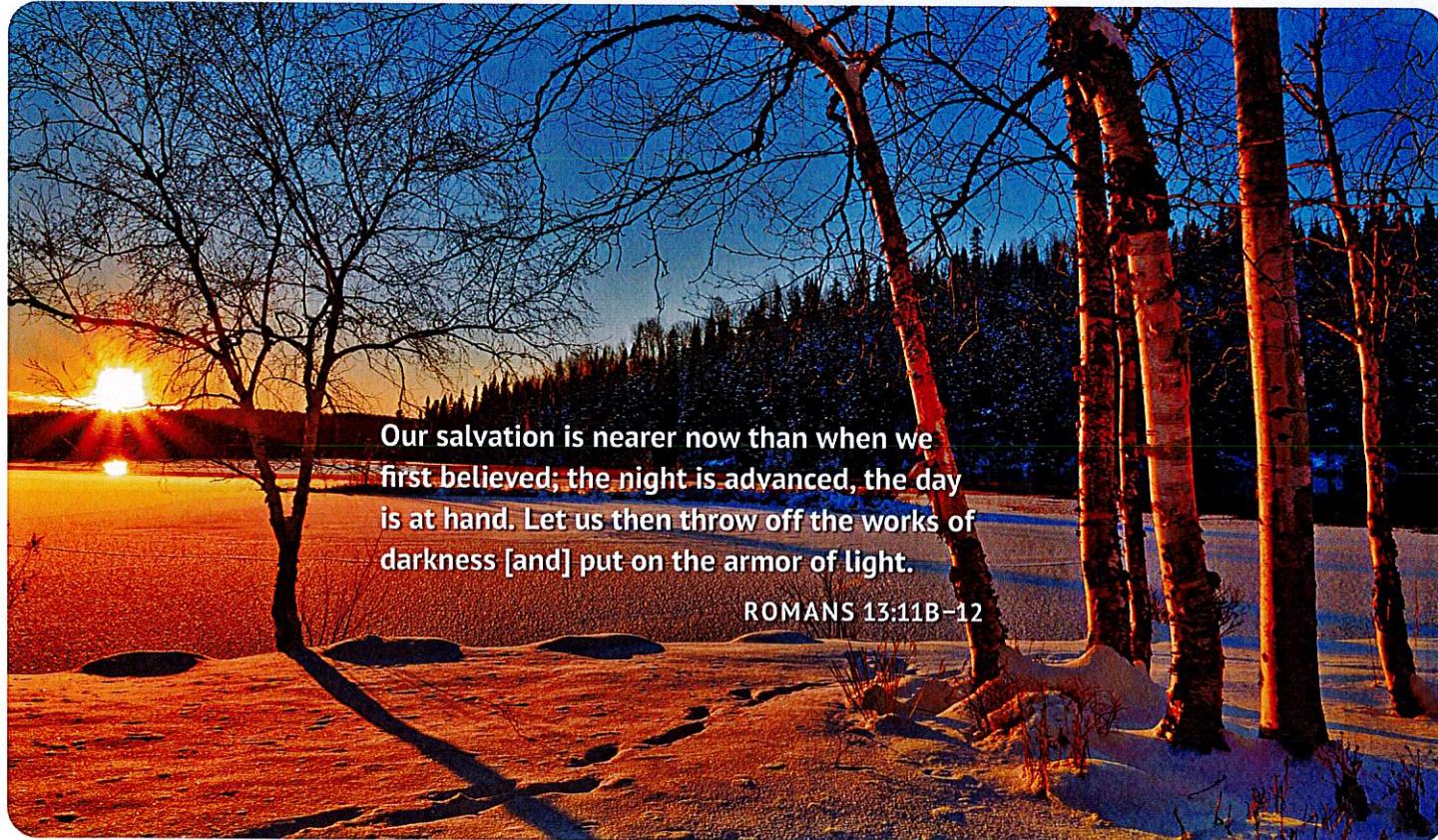
How do we wait for Christmas? After Halloween, the Christmas lights go up, the carols start, the “Merry Christmas!” / “Happy Holidays!” debate begins. Lent is a time for repentance, alms, and fasting. But there’s no fasting in Advent: we fill bags with gifts and stockings with goodies. The Church tries to slow us down and encourage a little reflecting to prepare the way, led by John the Baptist. So let’s keep waiting; let’s hold on to our peace. Christmas Eve will be here soon enough. But let’s not be too austere. A full menu of holiday parties and concerts and family feasts can legitimately “anticipate” Christmas. Let’s cheer each other: Merry Advent! ●



SCAN TO
LEARN ABOUT
AUTHOR
MIGUEL
DULICK

Reflect

What can I do to prepare for Christmas mindfully, peacefully, and joyfully?



**ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Hwy 62/412 & 49 Tekakwitha Dr.
Cherokee Village, Arkansas 72529

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office	Diocese of Little Rock www.dolr.org
257-2850	
Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri, 9:30 – 2:30	Closed Wednesdays
Mailing Address	Arkansas Catholic Newspaper
P.O. Box 970	www.arkansascatholic.org
Cherokee Village, AR 72525	
Rectory: (870) 257-4456	St. Michael's CASA #7215
St. Michael's Email:	stmichaelsoffice22@yahoo.com
St. Michael's Website:	http://stmichaelscvcatholicchurch.org

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Amal Raju Lourduswamy Punganoor
Parish Secretary: Rhonda Bystry
Office Email: stmichaelsoffice22@yahoo.com
Bookkeeper: Rose Brandenburg
Email: stmichaelcv@yahoo.com

Holy Mass Schedule: May God Bless You

Holy Mass 9:00 a.m.: Sunday, Monday, Thursday, Friday & 1st Saturday
Evening Holy Mass 6:00 p.m.: Wednesday
Vigil Holy Mass 4:00 pm.: Saturday
Confession 3:00 p.m.: 3:45 p.m. Saturday, 1st Friday & 1st Saturday of the month after 9 a.m. Holy Mass or by Appointment.
30 minutes prior to every Holy Mass, we pray the Holy Rosary
For more information, please contact the Church Office.

Sacraments

ENCOUNTERS WITH THE RISEN CHRIST!

The Sacrament of reconciliation is offered on First Friday and First Saturday after the 9 am Mass, Saturdays at 3 pm, and most any reasonable time by appointment. Your identity need not be known; your anonymity is respected.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is strongly encouraged by those seriously ill, the elderly, or those facing surgery. This sacrament of Our Lord's healing & comfort is usually available on the last weekend each month after every Mass, or by appointment.

The Sacrament of Marriage is a wonderful commitment to life and love, and the Church welcomes those who are called to this noble vocation. Christian marriage involves a couple's serious deliberation, prayer, and planning. The diocesan policy requires all engaged couples to contact the pastor at least 6 months before setting any wedding date.

The Sacrament of Baptism presupposes sufficient instruction according to the age of the candidate, and a desire to practice the faith. Expectant parents are encouraged to ask the Pastor for the Church's blessing for a safe and healthy delivery. Call the Church Office to schedule instruction and the service.

PARISH MINISTRIES

(Area code is 870 unless otherwise noted)

Adoration Chapel Coordinators

Rose Brandenburg (10 a.m. -4 p.m.)	847-5018
Anne Kootz (4 p.m. - 9 p.m.)	847-1985

Altar Society

Rose Brandenburg Financial Secretary	257-2850
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B-I-N-G-O

Isabelle Wiest	994-2243
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Columbarium Committee

Jim Wege (Kevin Templet, Kevin Langellier)	847-3396
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Holy Family cemetery

Bernie Brandenburg	994-2744
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Knights of Columbus

Buddy Kootz (Grand Knight)	847-0264
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Compassion Ministry

Pat Such	847-7224
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Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers - Buddy Kootz	847-0264
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Eucharistic Ministers

Parish Secretary	257-2850
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Communion to Nursing Homes

Nancy Paluck	421-9383
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Communion to Sick & Homebound

Maureen Matselbaba	(941) 356-0333
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Lectors

Teri Taylor	847-2112
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Music Director

Rose Brandenburg	847-5018
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Sacristans

Matt Winston	257-2857
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Ushers

Joann Helfert	920-344-0365
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Finance Council Committee

Michael Gagne (FC-Chair) (PC)	751-3419
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Bernie Brandenburg (FC)	994-2744
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Rhonda Bystry (FC)	994-2177
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Maureen Fortuna (FC)	966-3367
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Parish Council Committee

Buddy Kootz (PC-Chair)	847-0264
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Rose Brandenburg (PC)	847-5018
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Alison Munroe (PC)	847-7707
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Joyce Speir (PC)	266-3586
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Lori Templet (PC)	856-2261
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Isabelle Wiest (PC)	994-2243
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Prayer Chain

Kathy Gagne	751-3420
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pray4me70@att.net	
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Religious Education C.C.D

Lori Templet	856-2261
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ltemplet2507@yahoo.com	
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St. Vincent dePaul

Rick Esquivel	318-6442
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Help Line	257-3448
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Altar Flower Decorator

Pam MacAulay	847-6742
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NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to St. Michael's! We're glad you're here.

Please introduce yourself to Fr. Amal, and register by completing a registration form, then kindly return it to the Church Office. Get involved! Volunteer! Let us share with each other our God-given talents, love, and service to our neighbors. R.C.I.A. Adult Education.

Mass Intentions

Saturday/ November 29th – Here ends the year of Grace 2025

4 p.m. Holy Mass : Ariela Wege †
by Jeonilla VanHouten

*No 2nd Collection

Sunday/ November 30th– First Sunday of Advent

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Ariela Wege †
by : Joe and Doris Waggoner

All Deceased Knights of Columbus †

*No 2nd Collection

Monday/ December 1st – Advent weekday

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Dorothy Mikolajek †
by: Dennis and Jacqueline Malone

Tuesday/ – December 2nd – Advent weekday

No Holy Mass :

Wednesday / December 3rd – St. Francis Xavier, Priest

6 p.m. Holy Mass : Mary D'Ainco †
by : Mary Wadley and Pam Swacker

Thursday / December 4th – St. John Damascene, Priest

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Emiliana Kootz
by : Buddy and Anne Kootz

Our Lady of Sorrows meet after Holy Mass

Bingo- doors open at 5 pm games start at 6 pm

Friday/ December 5th – First Friday

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Thanksgiving for Life
by: Marcella Birckhead
Confessions after Holy Mass

Saturday/ December 6th – St. Nicholas, Bishop

9 a.m. Holy Mass : All Volunteers at St. Michael's
by : People of the Parish
Confessions after Holy Mass

4 p.m. Holy Mass : Frisk/Johnson/Sabado Families
by : Richard and Norma Frisk

2nd Collection : Retirement Fund for the Religious

***Food Pantry Collection**

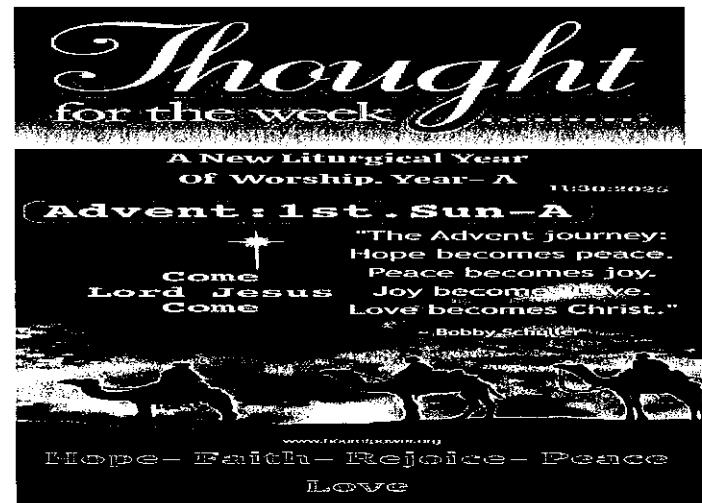
Sunday/ December 7th – Second Sunday of Advent

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Lori Templet
by : Kevin Templet

2nd Collection : Retirement Fund for the Religious

***Bingo -doors open at noon and games start at 1:30 pm**

***Food Pantry Collection**



▲ Wishing you a Blessed Week ▲



November 22nd and 23rd, 2025

Main collection : \$1543.00

Life at the Poverty line \$380.25

Many thanks to you for your sacrificial giving!

Could you Not watch one hour with me ?



Available Adoration

Friday 5 pm to 6 pm

Rose, (870) 847-5018, or

Anne, (870) 847-19859



God Bless the Donors and their Intentions

Altar Flowers this week are generously provided by: Knights of Columbus #6969 in memory of Deceased Knights and their spouses.

Tabernacle Roses this week are generously provided by: Buddy and Anne Kootz in honor of their granddaughter Emiliana Kootz birthday.

Retirement Fund for Religious

The 2nd Collection on December 6th and 7th is for the retired sisters, brothers, religious order older priest in our country. They gave their lives in service for decades; they deserve care in return. With this money they receive nursing care, medicine, housing, medical assistance, and essential support for thousands of aging religious. Please, consider being very generous.



Fr. Daniel Brandenburg, Bernie Brandenburg, Robert Butner, Nell Kihm, Mary Welch, Jack Heuser, Crystal Hawkins, Michael Gagne, Isabelle Wiest, Michael & Martha DeCoster, Larry Allen, Steve Allen, JoAnn Colwell, Georgia Harris, Dan Such, Dawn Logan, Mary Lee, Sister Joy Wege, Tim and Betty Eash, Jimmy White, Joan Schulz, Gail Demarest, Nico Woode, Pat Kimball, Marcella Birckhead, Michael Reddick, Gerald and Carol Metty, Darren Bates, Maryann Barber, Martin Moriarty, Maria Gerra, Colleen Royal, Cecilia Cefalu, Darrell and Elizabeth Beason, Jim Whorl, Joyce Speir, Amy Moriarty, Doug and Tammy Wortham.

Nursing Home: Ruth Klingle, Chuck Wolff and KayLynn Rodenbeck

Expectant Mothers: Kristene Bates and Josephine Gregory.

We wish you many blessings on your Birthday!

- ◆ December 2nd - Stefan Lanko
- ◆ December 3rd - Greta Ishmael
- ◆ December 4th - Annabelle Burton
- ◆ December 6th - Petr Oberding
- ◆ December 6th - Michael Reddick



We wish you many blessings on your Anniversary!

◆ December 6th - Tyler and Colleen Noel
34 years

**If your birthday or anniversary is missed please contact the office. So we can correct our records. Blessings ~*

Food Pantry Weekend

The 1st weekend of each month is the Food Pantry collection for those in need. The pantry is in need of the following food items :jelly, cereal, oatmeal, macaroni, any pasta, spaghetti sauce, tuna, chicken, tuna or chicken helper, canned ravioli and spaghetti, canned fruits, packaged noodles and packaged potatoes. Thank you for helping those in need. You may bring food at any time -leave in the library and let someone know.

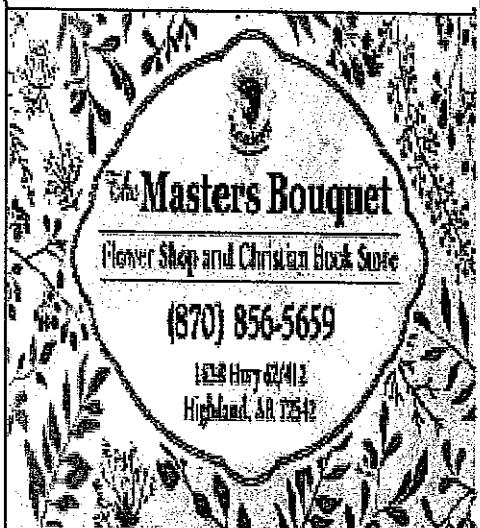
**Extra copies of the Christmas Holiday Schedule are located in the vestibule showing the Holy Masses times and other events and times.

Holy Family Catholic Cemetery
Burial Plots
Contact: Bernie Brandenburg

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St. Michael's Columbarium
Payment Plans Available
Contact: Jim Wege



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
CHARITY, UNITY,
FRATERNITY

St. John Neumann Council 6969
Grand Knight Buddy Kootz (870) 847-0264

Social and Potluck Meeting
2nd Monday of the month
Rosary 5:30 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.
Officers Meeting

Last Monday of the month
Rosary 5:30 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.

Fourth Degree
Patriotic Degree of the order
FN Michael Gagne (870)751-3419
Quarterly Business Meeting
2nd Saturday of the month

TRI-COUNTY
FUNERAL HOME

Compassion and Guidance
when needed most

(870) 856-2705
tricountyfuneralhome@yahoo.com

Physical Address
1540 Highway 62-412
Highland, AR 72542

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 665
Hardy, AR 72542
only on-site crematory
In Sharp County



St. Michael's Parish Hall
Thursday 6 p.m.
Door's Open at 5 p.m.
1st Sunday of the month,
1 p.m. Doors Open at 12 p.m.

new beginnings
PREGNANCY HELP CENTER

New Beginning
1438 HWY 62/412
Highland, AR. 72542
(870)994-LIFE (5433)
After Hours Hotline
1-800-712-HELP (4357)
TXT Helpline to 313131
Monday — Thursday open
10 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday



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ST. MARY OF THE MOUNT — Fr. Amal Raju Lourduswamy Punganoor — Pastor

1002 First Street
Horseshoe Bend AR.72512
(870) 670-5896

<https://stmaryshsb.org>
Confessions after every Mass
Adoration after Friday Mass

churchoffice@stmaryshsb.org
Horseshoe Bend AR.72512
(870) 670-5896

Dear Padre,

Is Advent a penitential season?

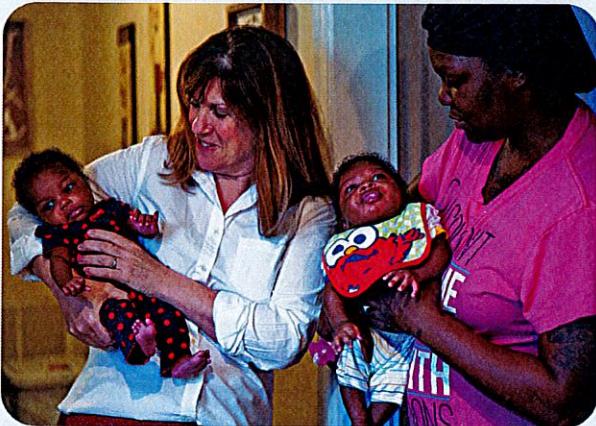
Strictly speaking, the penitential times in the Church are “every Friday of the whole year and the season of Lent” (*Code of Canon Law*, 1250). Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s First Coming is remembered, and this remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time. (See *Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*, 39.) While Advent is more anticipatory than penitential, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops states, “Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.” Although, historically, Advent was similar to Lent as a forty-day period of prayer and fasting, it was less severe than the season preceding Easter, and it lacked uniformity in the Western Church. The Eastern Church still begins the Nativity Fast on November 15, while in the Western Church, Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas.

Regardless, the significant focus of Advent is our Lord’s coming (*adventus* in Latin). The Church reflects this anticipation of Advent through such practices as limiting floral arrangements in the sanctuary, simpler liturgical music, and omitting the *Gloria* at Mass until Christmas. We can also reflect the anticipation of Advent through such spiritual practices as participation in works of charity, moderation in shopping, celebration of the sacrament of penance, fasting on Fridays, and prayerful contemplation on our Savior’s Incarnation. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 1	December 2	December 3	December 4	December 5	December 6	December 7
Advent	Advent	St. Francis	Advent	Advent	Advent	Second Sunday of Advent
Weekday	Weekday	Xavier, Priest	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	
Is 4:2-6	Is 11:1-10	Is 25:6-10a	Is 26:1-6	Is 29:17-24	Is 30:19-21, 23-26	Is 11:1-10
Mt 8:5-11	Lk 10:21-24	Mt 15:29-37	Mt 7:21, 24-27	Mt 9:27-31	Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8	Rom 15:4-9



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

We are called to offer God’s love to everyone, in order to achieve that unity which does not cancel out differences but values the personal history of each person and the social and religious culture of every people. Brothers and sisters, this is the hour for love! The heart of the gospel is the love of God that makes us brothers and sisters.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025