



Who Do You Say That I Am?

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” An easy answer if you just report what other people say and what you have heard. No commitment. No revelation. No risk. But it all changes when the question is more to the point: “Who do you say that I am?” Tell me what you know, not what you heard. The silence is almost deafening. Vulnerability, not just anonymous reporting, is required in the asked-for response. No surprise—it is Peter who answers. Never one to hide his emotions or edit his thoughts, it is Peter who reveals what he knows, perhaps even what he is unsure of, perhaps the truth that he only hopes for but has not yet declared. “You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God” (Matthew 16:16).

Jesus responds with a prayer of blessing; the

apostles, on the other hand, remain silent. Although we are very familiar with Peter’s assent of faith, his declaration was almost unheard-of or unexpected from a first-century Jewish man. It was dangerous to identify someone as Messiah. It was blasphemous to

name someone as the Son of the Living God. Yet, in faith and humility, Peter made the declaration and, in the naming, entrusted his life, his hope, and all that he believed firmly into the hands of Jesus. This was no simple act. This was no ordinary day. ●



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Simon Peter said in reply, “You are the
Messiah, the Son of the Living God.”

MATTHEW 16:16



Reflect

How would you answer if Jesus asked you, “Who do you say that I am?” (He is asking you!)



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Mass Schedule – Forsyth

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule – Hysham

Sunday at 10:30 AM

Sunday at 12:30 PM

Office hours: By appointment – call 406.853.5252 or come to the rectory.

Religious Education: Contact Diane Wyrick for Forsyth at 406.351.2845 and Amber for Hysham at 406.342.5448.

Confession: Saturdays @ 2 PM.

Baptism: Adults and children under 7 (please contact Father Rob.)

Anointing of the Sick: If you are having surgery or are sick, please contact Father Rob to receive the Sacrament of Anointing.

Funerals: When anticipating or planning a funeral, please contact Father Rob before finalizing the arrangements.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to have a Mass offered and be listed in the bulletin, please contact Father Rob.

Homebound & Sick: If you or someone you know can no longer attend Mass due to physical inability, please contact Father Rob or Diane Wyrick at 406.351.2845 or Rosemary in Hysham at 406.740.1457 to receive Holy Communion and Anointing.

Immaculate Conception Prayer Chain: For requests, call Cherie Heser at 406.351.9048.

Mass & Liturgy Schedule:

Sunday	08/23	8:30 AM	Communion Service by Deacon Jim.
Sunday	08/23	12:30 PM	Communion Service by Deacon Jim.
Tuesday	08/25	5:15 PM	No Mass in Forsyth.
Friday	08/28	9:00 AM	No Mass in Forsyth.
Saturday	08/29	4:00 PM	Communion Service at the Nursing Home by Deacon Jim.
Sunday	08/30	10:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Jack & Betty Steinberger from Dan Steinberger & Mary Gross.
Sunday	08/30	12:30 PM	Mass for Hysham will be in Forsyth this Sunday.

- ✠ Rosary every Monday at 8:15 AM, Tuesday at 4:45 PM and Friday at 8:30 AM.
- ✠ Religious education for children Sunday at 9:30 AM.
- ✠ Bible Study in Forsyth is Friday morning after Mass.
- ✠ CCD & Sacramental Prep Classes on Sunday morning. Questions: Please contact Diane Wyrick in Forsyth and Amber in Hysham.
- ✠ Mass times at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Colstrip Sunday 8:30 AM.
- ✠ CCW meeting the 2nd Sunday after Mass.

Announcements:

The Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph parish picnic will be held after Mass on August 30th hosted by the Knights of Columbus. Families with the last names beginning with A through M please bring a dessert and those with last names beginning with N through Z please bring a side dish.

Reminder: There will be no Mass in Hysham on August 30th because of the parish picnic. Please come to Forsyth for Mass that day and then the picnic right after Mass.

Note: A separate collection basket will be passed for Hysham during Mass on Sunday August 30th.

Please note: Fr. Rob will be on vacation after Masses on August 16 through August 29. There will be no weekday Masses or Confessions those two weeks. Deacon Jim will lead a Communion Service on Sunday, August 23 at the regular times, including the Nursing Home on the 22nd and 29th.

Finance Update: Last Sunday Collection: 08/16/2026

Immaculate Conception – Forsyth		St. Joseph – Hysham	
Loose Cash	145.00	Loose Cash	14.00
Loose Checks	615.00	Loose Checks	60.00
Envelope Cash	100.00	Envelope Cash	10.00
Envelope Checks	625.00	Envelope Checks	220.00
Other (Bathroom)	720.00	Other (Stipend)	30.00
Music	0.00	Building Fund	0.00
Special Collection (Stipend)	0.00	Special Collection	0.00
Special Collection (Peters Pence)	0.00	Capital Campaign	60.00
Current Operating Fund	0.00	Current Operating Fund	10.00
<i>TOTAL:</i>	<i>\$ 2205.00</i>	<i>TOTAL:</i>	<i>\$ 394.00</i>

Forsyth & Hysham Ministry Schedule for next Sunday: 08/30/2026

Forsyth:			
	Time	Service	Names
	Mass at 10:30 AM	Eucharistic Ministers	Knights of Columbus
		Cross Bearer	Knights of Columbus
		Lector	Knights of Columbus
		Ushers	Knights of Columbus
		Gifts	Knights of Columbus
		Col. Counters	Frank Smith & Ryan Silvis
		Sacristan	Margo Anderson
Hysham:			
	Mass at 12:30 PM	Eucharistic Ministers	Renee Zent & Rosemary Olson
		Lector	Dale Zent

Dear Padre,

Can a non-Catholic serve and hold an office in a Catholic parish organization?

According to their knowledge, competence, and position, the Christian faithful have an obligation to assist in the necessary works of the Church and promote the common good of the parish—its worship, its apostolic mission, its charities, the care of its ministers, and its care of the poor. (See *Code of Canon Law*, 222.) In general, canon law and most diocesan regulations stipulate that members of primary decision-making entities must be active, registered Catholics who participate in the sacramental life of the Church. For example, members of a pastoral council must be “in full communion with the Catholic Church” (CCL 512 §1). However, non-Catholics—such as spouses of parishioners or experts in their fields (e.g., finance, law, architecture)—are sometimes invited to lend their skills by serving on advisory boards and committees or in other support roles that are usually in a non-voting capacity. In all cases, the pastor or bishop has the discretion to involve non-Catholics in specific initiatives. For instance, a bishop “can invite as observers to the diocesan synod other ministers or members of churches or ecclesial communities which are not in full communion with the Catholic Church” (CCL, 463 §3). A non-Catholic interested in serving should consult the local priest about available opportunities, based on the norms of a diocese. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

I genuinely hope that our Christian lifestyle will always reflect this fraternal, “Samaritan” spirit—one that is welcoming, courageous, committed, and supportive, rooted in our union with God and our faith in Jesus Christ. Enkindled by this divine love, we will surely be able to give of ourselves for the good of all who suffer, especially our brothers and sisters who are sick, elderly, or afflicted.

MESSAGE ON WORLD
DAY OF THE SICK,
ROME, FEBRUARY 11,
2026

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

Monday

August 24
St. Bartholomew,
Apostle
Rv 21:9b–14
Jn 1:45–51

Tuesday

August 25
Weekday
2 Thes 2:1–3a, 14–17
Mt 23:23–26

Wednesday

August 26
Weekday
2 Thes 3:6–10, 16–18
Mt 23:27–32

Thursday

August 27
St. Monica
1 Cor 1:1–9
Mt 24:42–51

Friday

August 28
St. Augustine, Bishop
and Doctor of the
Church
1 Cor 1:17–25
Mt 25:1–13

Saturday

August 29
The Passion of St.
John the Baptist
1 Cor 1:26–31
Mk 6:17–29

Sunday

August 30
Twenty-second
Sunday in Ordinary
Time
Jer 20:7–9
Rom 12:1–2
Mt 16:21–27

IMMACULATE / SHUTTERSTOCK