

“Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes,’  
and your ‘No’ mean ‘No.’”

MATTHEW 5:37

## Some Walk Away

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

**“Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No’ mean ‘No’”** (Matthew 5:37). This teaching of Jesus seems to get lost, perhaps because it comes at the end of a long listing of commandments. Regardless, it seems to get right to the point, almost making the other commandments unnecessary or perhaps clarifying them. Either you are going to be a child of your heavenly Father and live like one, or you are not. If you are a child of God, you would not contemplate any evil behaviors, let alone actually do them.

That is the clarity of the teaching of Jesus. It is authentic. It is compelling. It invites a response. Yet, there are those who were present with him who did not understand. Who missed the point. Who insisted on another way. Who could not discern the simplicity of the truth. To each of these men and women, including some with the religious title of scribe or Pharisee, he observed, “And if the light in you is darkness, how great will the darkness be” (Matthew 6:23). Even sadder is that not only did they miss the point, they also simply walked away.

Do you want to say more than a simple “Yes” or “No”? Do you want to say, “Yes, but... I can’t do it now.” Or “I can’t forgive this particular person.” Or “I can’t welcome this particular stranger.” Or “I can’t love him or her or them.”

Have you also missed the point? Do you also want to walk away? ●



LEARN ABOUT  
THE AUTHORS  
OF OUR PARISH  
COMMUNITY

### Reflect

**What teachings of Jesus are too hard to consider?**



**Immaculate Conception & St. Joseph's Catholic Church**

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**Mass Schedule – Forsyth**

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Mass Schedule – Hysham**

**Sunday at 8:30 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 Hesper at 406.351.9048.

**Mass & Liturgy Schedule:**

Sunday	02/15	8:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth Norma Tom from Helen Killen.
Sunday	02/15	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for Jason, Whitney & Pryor Thibault from Joan Thibault.
Tuesday	02/17	5:15 PM	Mass in Forsyth for Poor Souls in Purgatory from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Friday	02/20	9:00 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Jeff Wigen from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Saturday	02/21	4:00 PM	Mass at the Nursing Home for Poor Souls in Purgatory from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Sunday	02/22	8:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Healing Prayers for Yvonne Smith from Frank Smith.
Sunday	02/22	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for the People of the Parish.

- ✠ 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 10:30 AM.
- ✠ CCW meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Mass.

**Announcements:**

**Lent begins February 18<sup>th</sup>**. Ash Wednesday Masses: St. Joseph, Hysham 12:15 PM, Immaculate Conception, Forsyth 5:30 PM and St. Margaret Mary, Colstrip 7 PM.

Stations of the Cross will be every Friday during Lent at 5 PM in Hysham and 5:15 PM in Forsyth. Immaculate Conception will have a soup supper following.

Immaculate Conception Parish Council will meet Thursday, February 19 at 7 PM.

The first K of C Fish Fry is Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at Immaculate Conception in Forsyth.

Everyone is reminded that CCW has a prayer chain, a powerful way to have many people praying for your needs. If you have a request, call or text Cherie Hesper at 406-351-9048 or email to cheser1948@gmail.com. if you wish to be part of the chain, let Cherie know.

**Finance Update: Last Sunday Collection: 02/08/2026**

<b>Immaculate Conception – Forsyth</b>		<b>St. Joseph – Hysham</b>	
Loose Cash	297.00	Loose Cash	0.00
Loose Checks	75.00	Loose Checks	490.00
Envelope Cash	100.00	Envelope Cash	30.00
Envelope Checks	1285.00	Envelope Checks	490.00
Other (Bathroom)	50.00	Other (Stipend)	10.00
Cathedraticum Assessment	95.00	Building Fund	0.00
Special Collection	0.00	Special Collection	0.00
Capital Campaign	0.00	Capital Campaign	0.00
Current Operating Fund	0.00	Current Operating Fund	0.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 1902.00</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 1030.00</b>

**Forsyth & Hysham Ministry Schedule for next Sunday: 02/22/2026**

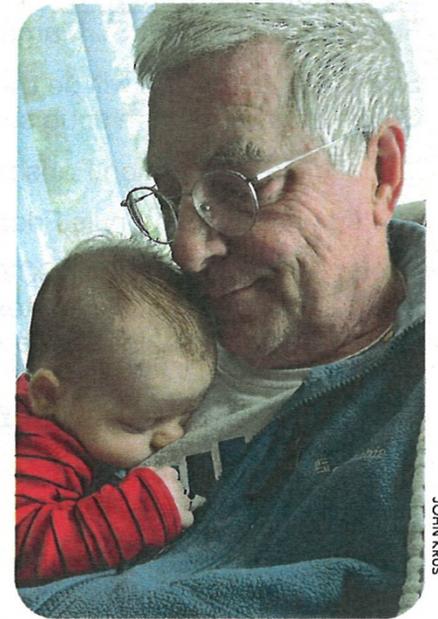
<b>Forsyth:</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Names</b>
	<b>Mass at 8:30 AM</b>	Eucharistic Ministers	<b>Phil Steinberger &amp; Diane Wyrick</b>
		Cross Bearer	<b>Phil Steinberger</b>
		Lector	<b>Lloyd Nelson</b>
		Ushers	<b>Phil &amp; Renee Steinberger</b>
		Gifts	<b>Phil &amp; Renee Steinberger</b>
		Col. Counters	<b>Ryan Silvis &amp; Dan Murnion</b>
		Sacristan	<b>Lorelei Schick</b>
<b>Hysham:</b>			
	<b>Mass at 12:30 PM</b>	Eucharistic Ministers	<b>Brent Icopini &amp; Mary Mitchell</b>
		Lector	<b>Renee Zent</b>

# Dear Padre,

***My grandkids' parents don't want them to be baptized. Can I do it myself secretly so as not to cause problems?***

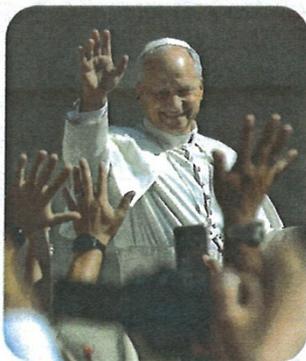
Your concern is understandable, but secret baptisms are prohibited in the Catholic Church. The decision to baptize a child is determined by his or her parents. To secretly usurp their decision may cause problems of its own. For an infant to be baptized, "The parents or at least one of them or the person who legitimately takes their place must consent," and "There must be a founded hope that the infant will be brought up in the Catholic religion" (*Code of Canon Law*, 868 §1). An exception is permitted when the child's life is in immediate danger: "An infant of Catholic parents or even of non-Catholic parents is baptized licitly in danger of death, even against the will of the parents" (*CCL* 868 §2). Here, the Church's pastoral concern is for the child to receive the immediate graces from the sacrament; the question of raising the child in the faith becomes moot in a life-or-death situation.

"Since the earliest times, baptism has been administered to children, for it is a grace and a gift of God that does not presuppose any human merit.... Entry into Christian life gives access to true freedom" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1282). Continue to pray that your family may see baptism as a sign of God's love, which offers true freedom for humanity. ●



**Fr. Byron J. Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org**

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV



**The Spirit opens borders, first of all, in our hearts. He is the Gift that opens our lives to love. His presence breaks down our hardness of heart, our narrowness of**

**mind, our selfishness, the fears that enchain us and the narcissism that makes us think only of ourselves.... Sadly, oddly enough, in a world of burgeoning "social" media, we risk being ever more alone.**

**HOMILY, ROME, JUNE 8, 2025**

### Monday

February 16

Weekday

Jas 1:1-11

Mk 8:11-13

### Tuesday

February 17

Weekday

Jas 1:12-18

Mk 8:14-21

### Wednesday

February 18

Ash Wednesday

Jl 2:12-18

2 Cor 5:20-6:2

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

### Thursday

February 19

Thursday after

Ash Wednesday

Dt 30:15-20

Lk 9:22-25

### Friday

February 20

Friday after

Ash Wednesday

Is 58:1-9a

Mt 9:14-15

### Saturday

February 21

Saturday after

Ash Wednesday

Is 58:9b-14

Lk 5:27-32

### Sunday

February 22

First Sunday  
of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Rom 5:12-19 or  
5:12, 17-19

Mt 4:1-11

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.