

# 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



“My great delight is to unite myself with souls. Know, my daughter, that when I come to a human heart in Holy Communion, my hands are full of all kinds of graces which I want to give to the soul. But souls do not even pay any attention to me; they leave me to myself and busy themselves with other things. Oh, how sad I am that souls do not recognize love! They treat me as a dead object.”

~ Jesus to St Faustina Kowalska

*April 12 is Divine Mercy Sunday*  
*the Divine Mercy Chaplet Novena begins on Good Friday and is prayed until Divine Mercy Sunday. Please join us in this special devotion. Pamphlets are available in the Gathering Space.*



## 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

## Church Library



**BOOKS, DVDs, CDs & More!**

# Welcome to Our Parish Community

## EASTER Sunday ~ April 5, 2026



**St Anthony of Padua Catholic Church**  
 Hot Springs, SD

### Weekend Mass Schedules:

Saturday ~ 5:30pm	St John the Baptist Church ~ Custer, SD
Sunday ~ 8:00am	St John the Baptist Church ~ Custer, SD
Sunday ~ 10:30am	St Anthony of Padua Church ~ Hot Springs, SD
Sunday ~ 5:00pm	St James the Apostle Church ~ Edgemont, SD

## Believing Is Seeing

MIGUEL DULICK

**W**e 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! ●



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

JOHN 20:8

### Parish Office: ~ St Anthony Parish

**Office Hours:** 8:00am – 5:00pm  
*(closed for lunch ~ noon – 1:00pm)*  
**Street Address:** 538 University Ave  
**Mailing Address:** PO Box 969  
 Hot Springs, SD 57747  
**Phone:** 605-745-3393  
**After Hours:** 605-745-3278  
**Email:** [sohillscatholic@gwtc.net](mailto:sohillscatholic@gwtc.net)  
**Website:** [www.stanthonyhotsprings.org](http://www.stanthonyhotsprings.org)

### Pastoral Staff:

**Pastor:**  
 Rev Collins Igwilo  
[cigwilo@diorc.org](mailto:cigwilo@diorc.org)  
**Deacon:**  
 Dcn. Craig Pearson  
 605-891-9164  
**Office Manager / Bookkeeper:**  
 Susie Hayes  
 605-745-3393

### Parish Office: ~ St James Parish

**Street Address:** 310 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave  
**Mailing Address:** PO Box 568  
**UPS/FedEx:** 308 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave  
 Edgemont, SD 57735  
**Funeral Contact:**  
 Linda Tidball 605-685-4301  
**Office Manager / Bookkeeper:**  
 Lynn Westberg 703-869-0886  
[lfwestberg@gmail.com](mailto:lfwestberg@gmail.com)  
**Mass Information:**  
 Greg Lacey 605-662-5048



**Welcome to our Catholic faith community. If you are a new parishioner interested in becoming part of our parish community, please stop by the Parish Office and register or call for more information.**