

Dear Padre,

A Protestant friend tells me that Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins. That doesn't seem accurate to me. What does the Church teach about the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross?

Jesus understood his mission to be sacrificing his own life "as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). His fidelity to that mission was even at the cost of death. However, saying Jesus' death was payment for our sins doesn't mean that a vengeful God was appeased by the slaughter of his own innocent son. Rather, we are redeemed because of the mutual love between Father and Son, as well as the love Christ had for us all when he offered his life. "It is love 'to the end' (see John 13:1) that confers on Christ's sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 616). It is in this sense that Jesus' death was a payment—not one to be exacted—but a unique sacrifice "that completes and surpasses all other sacrifices," when "the Father handed his Son over to sinners in order to reconcile us with himself," and the Son of God freely and lovingly offered his human life to his Father "in reparation for our disobedience" (CCC 614). Christ "bore our sins in his body upon the cross.... By his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24). Viewed in light of the resurrection, Christ's death has meaning in eternal life's triumph over sin. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



**Heads up!!!**  
CDA Rummage Sale has been scheduled for October 3-4. Be sure to mark your calendar and start saving up any gently used items you would like to donate to the sale. Drop off day will be October 2 at the Mueller Center.



The Bible Timeline – The Story of Salvation, has resumed after a summer off. We meet on Sundays at 8:45am in the church library. Please join us!



Saturday, September 20

Pilgrimage to the Cathedral in Rapid City as a Parish Family

Join us as we journey together in faith as 'Pilgrims of Hope'

- 8:00am meet to carpool at St Anthony
- 8:15 Leave St Anthony for Robbinsdale Park in Rapid City
- 9:15 meet at Robbinsdale Park, 631 E Oakland St, in Rapid City at the intersection of E Fairmont Blvd and Robbinsdale Park Rd
- 9:30 start walking from Robbinsdale Park to the Cathedral, 1.4 miles will take approximately 30 minutes (if you do not want to or cannot walk, please be to the Cathedral at 10:00am)
- 10:00 Father Brian Christensen will open the Holy Doors of the Cathedral
- 10:45 Adoration and Confession
- 11:45 Mass in the Chapel
- 12:30 Lunch – bring your own lunch

Make a joyful noise!!

First meeting for all voices interested in singing Handel's Hallelujah Chorus from The Messiah on Tuesday, September 16 at 6:30pm. Any questions or concerns please call Amy Spears at 605.745.5347 and leave a message – she will get back to you.

Welcome to Our Parish Community  
Sunday ~ September 14, 2025



St Anthony of Padua Catholic Church  
Hot Springs, SD

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 3rd Ave  
Mailing Address: PO Box 568  
UPS/FedEx: 308 3rd 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

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

When Life Is on Empty

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Reflect

What emptying am I experiencing?  
Can I accept it as becoming more like Jesus?

As he stood in line in front of me, the back of his T-shirt read, "Pain is weakness leaving the body." Though unsaid, it implied that the parting pain would be replaced by newfound strength. Yet, the more I thought about it, I wondered if that is always the case. Some pain simply leaves one empty, like the grief that comes with the death of one's child. That emptiness never leaves, it is never replaced. So too, the pain of living with mental illness, as it seems to isolate one from many of life's joys and satisfactions. Or, eventually, the aging process in all of us, as it slips in and steals the treasures of life, one by one. Pain is not always weakness leaving the body. Sometimes, it is the pain of an alien spirit settling in for the long haul.

If St. Paul's assertion that Jesus came and "emptied himself...coming in human likeness...even [to] death on a cross," then those times that seem to empty us of all we would hold dear are the times when we slowly take on the image of Jesus in our own lives. It is at such times when we are most powerless but also when God's spirit shines through our broken and wounded lives, if only because we become totally dependent upon God. It is Saint Teresa of Kolkata who is said to have once remarked that even God cannot fill what is already full. ●



[Christ Jesus] emptied himself... becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

PHILIPPIANS 2:7-8



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.