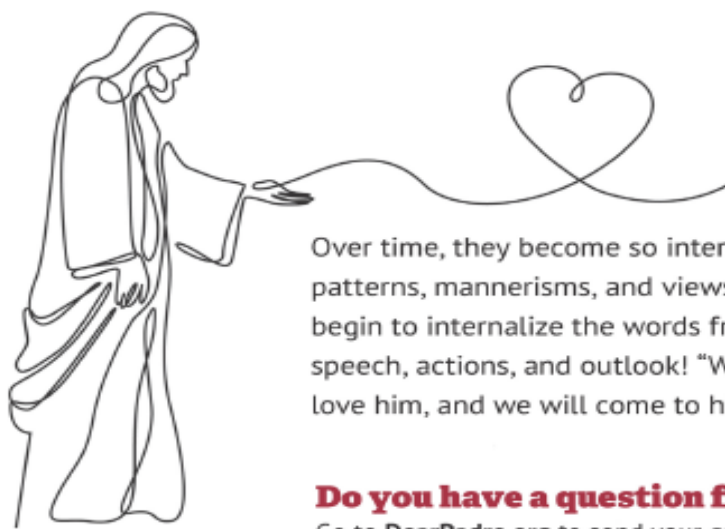


Dear Padre,

Why does my parish priest preach about love practically every Sunday?

"Through the course of the liturgical year, the homily sets forth the mysteries of faith and the standards of the Christian life on the basis of the sacred text" (*Lectio*, 24). A translation of the English word "love" appears in the Bible more than 500 times; by comparison, "sin" appears approximately 400 times. Thus, insofar as the homily "should be an explanation of some aspect of the readings from sacred Scripture" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 65), God's word on "love" is far too prevalent to overlook.



Pope Francis called God's word "a love letter, written to us by the One who knows us best." In the Bible, this God who desires to bestow his love on us (See 1 John 3:1), is essentially telling us, "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways." How we love God in return may be likened to two partners in a committed relationship.

Over time, they become so intertwined that they can even assume each other's speech patterns, mannerisms, and views. Likewise, for those who love God, over the years we can begin to internalize the words from God's "love letter" and reflect them in our Christian speech, actions, and outlook! "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him" (John 14:23). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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



19th Annual Catholic Daughters of St. Anthony's Fall Rummage Sale

Friday, Oct 3 ♦ 8:00am – 4:00pm
Saturday, Oct 4 ♦ 8:00am – 12:00noon
\$2.00 Bag Sale on Saturday

Mueller Civic Center
801 S. 6th Street ♦ Hot Springs

Drop Off New or Gently Used Items
Thursday, Oct 2 ♦ 8:00am – 3:00pm
No televisions, electronics, encyclopedias, boots
or shoes will be accepted.

For more information:
Email: kaybirkholt@gmail.com

All Voices Welcome!! Hallelujah Choir Practice every Tuesday 6:30 – 7:30

A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Catholic Diocese of Rapid City is firmly committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for our children and young people. To report allegations of sexual abuse by church personnel, contact **Victim Assistance Coordinator, Irene Lee**. To ensure confidentiality in our outreach to victims, she can be contacted privately at 605/209-3418 (cell). Alleged victims are advised of their right to report alleged abuse to civil authorities. In accordance with diocesan policy, all allegations of sexual misconduct involving children, young people, and vulnerable adults by priests, deacons, lay employees, or volunteers serving the Diocese will be investigated. The diocesan Sexual Misconduct Policy and the Code of Conduct are posted at www.RapidCityDiocese.org.

Volunteers Needed at the CDA Rummage Sale!!

Thursday – we need help setting up, taking in, sorting, and laying out donated items from 8a – 3p
Saturday – we need help boxing up left over items and putting away tables & racks from 11:30a – 1:00p
Any amount of time you can spare will be helpful!!

Welcome to Our Parish Community Sunday ~ September 28, 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
Website: www.stanthonyhotsprings.org

Pastoral Staff:

Pastor:
Rev Collins Igwilo
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

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

Adrift

FR. JOSEPH JUKNALIS

In *A Christmas Carol*, Ebenezer Scrooge found himself confronted by the person he had become: someone forced to accept the reality painted by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come. Scrooge hadn't realized how he had slowly drifted into becoming an uncaring and greedy person, unable to show compassion because he never really saw someone else's pain. The story of Ebenezer Scrooge is the story of the rich man in this Sunday's gospel who was unmoved by poor Lazarus, sitting at the gate of the rich man's sumptuous life. They are both stories of human beings drifting into emptiness.

St. Thomas Aquinas suggested that our motivations in life can ultimately be reduced to eight different categories. If we're interested in understanding what sort of people we are becoming, we might ask

ourselves which of these questions best describes our motivation: Am I making my decisions and choices about life based on wealth? Or am I looking to be admired by others and be praised? Is it lasting glory that I seek? Or power so that I can be noted for "making a difference?" Is what I seek a life of ultimate pleasure and comfort? Is it health that I look for? Or perhaps something related to my inner life—some intangible good, like virtue or knowledge? Or is it to see God already in this life what I truly want? It is always a challenge to know our true selves because all too often we may be adrift, unaware of who we are becoming. ●

Reflect

Which of St. Thomas Aquinas' questions describes me and my choices?

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Woe to those who
are complacent....
[T]hey shall be
the first to go
into exile.

AMOS 6:1, 7



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.