

Dear Padre,

What is the Church's view on having crystal stones or sage in the home to bring in positive energy?

The Church does not have an official position on every possible human action or activity. The Church believes in the discerning principle of maturity and fully expects that the people of God will use the ability that has been entrusted to them by the Creator in a positive manner. The Church understands the power of mystery and the power of symbols but rightfully assigns any "energy" that mystery and symbols may generate to the power of the Holy Spirit. Inanimate objects, by the very definition of "inanimate," do not generate energy. They may be symbols of energy, but they do not have energy in and of themselves.

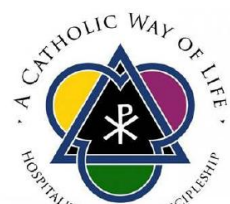
If you enjoy crystals because of their beauty or because of the way they diffuse light, then there is no harm in having them in your house. If you like the smell of sage, then use it and enjoy it. All symbols have different meanings, depending on how they are understood and used by the people who gathered, collect, and store them for use. These symbols have no power in and of themselves for good or for evil. However, if you live in a culture that has identified the meaning of a symbol, and that assigned meaning contradicts Christian belief and practice, it would be best to avoid that symbol. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

Time and Talent Share Fair



FAITHFUL STEWARD

Sunday, November 9

(following 10:30 mass)

Learn about opportunities to get more involved with our church through its organizations and ministries including:

- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Musicians/Accompanists
- Altar Servers
- Ushers/Greeters
- Readers
- Youth Programs
- Hospitality
- OCIA
- Sacristans
- and much more

Talk with coordinators, ask questions, learn about what's involved and how you can lend your time and talent.

*"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."
~ 1Pt 4:10*

All members of the Church have their own rolls to play in being a good steward:
Parents, who nurture their children in the light of faith.

Parishioners who work in concrete ways to make their parishes true communities of faith and vibrant sources of service to the larger community.

All Catholics, who give generous support – time, talent, treasure, and prayers according to their circumstances – to parish and diocesan programs and to the universal Church.

*Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be
my servant, too.*

*We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are travelers on the road;
We are here to help each other walk the mile and
bear the load.*

Welcome to Our Parish Community Sunday ~ October 19, 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

The Widow God

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

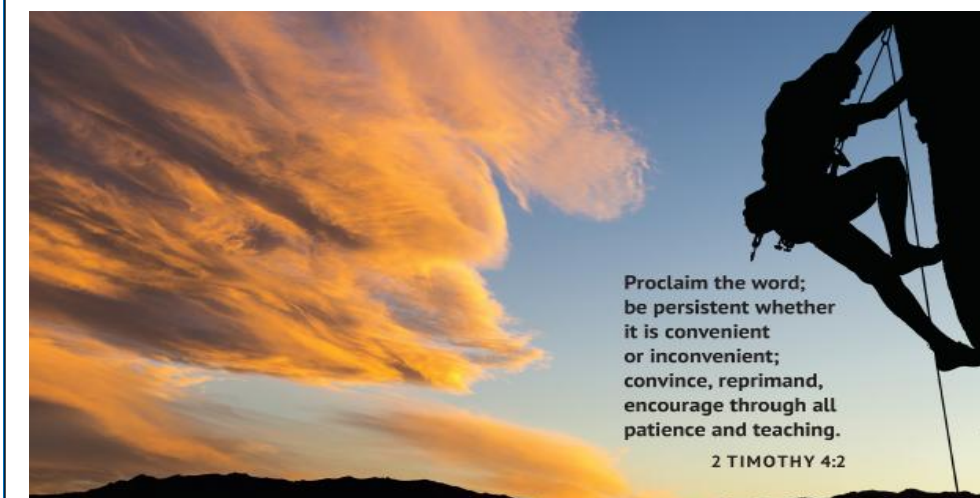
I have a friend who likes to say that God always answers prayers; it's just that sometimes God says "no." He'll say that not always getting what we pray for seems to fit the way life is. My difficulty with that piece of religious folk wisdom is that God then comes off as someone who sits around sorting out answers to prayers from the billions of daily requests sent God's way. When I object to my friend's saying, he's quick to remind me that God wants us to pray. Doesn't this week's parable about the widow who plagues the dishonest judge say just that? Don't give up praying. Yet God isn't like a dishonest judge who cares not for any human being. It also presumes that the sheer multiplication of words sent God's way increases the chances that we'll get a positive hearing,

and that God needs to be convinced to do good for us, or at least what we presume is good. But then that presumes that we know better than God.

So perhaps God is not like the judge but like the widow, continually pleading that we might give him a hearing. The purpose of our prayer, then, is not to get God to do what we want, but rather to open ourselves to what God wants for us. That does take some trust, but don't we believe that God knows us better than we know ourselves? That's why the parable ends with the question, "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" ●

Reflect

When I talk to God, do I also listen?



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.