

Dear Padre,

Should the pope get involved in American politics?

No, the pope should not get involved in the politics of any country. However, politics often intersects with religious concerns and particularly gospel values. When this occurs, the Holy Father has a responsibility to preach the gospel and defend the values the gospel teaches, even when it might sound political. He pronounces and teaches the values of the gospel, regardless of what nation or politician might feel confronted or challenged by what he teaches.

What often happens is, when politicians find themselves in conflict with the gospel values the pope is teaching, they choose to say, "The pope has no business in our politics," instead of listening. Completely understandable, at least from one perspective, but probably also disingenuous from another perspective. Politicians are fully aware of what is being proclaimed and why it is being proclaimed but choose not to listen. That, too, is completely understandable, if regrettable. One has to think only of the scribes and the Pharisees, and more particularly the high priest, who said, "Consider that it is better for you that one man should die instead of the people, so that the whole nation may not perish" (John 11:50).

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



Welcome to Our Parish Community
Sunday ~ November 09, 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 ~ 2:00pm	St James the Apostle Church ~ Edgemont, SD



The Body of Christ on Parade

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Sharing together during the distribution of holy Communion is one way of expressing the reality that we are one in the Eucharist, the Body of Christ. I once was taught to pray quietly during this time. If I'm honest, however, what I find myself doing after I return to my pew is watching others process past as they return from receiving Communion. They are a parade of holiness on the way. They are the longtime parishioners who have been making their way back to their pews in this way for decades—some now using walkers or canes, others with a bit of a slow hobble. There are teenagers, too. Some, from the expressions on their faces, look like their parents made them come, while others look impressively prayerful. Young parents, too, caring for a new baby in their arms, and another couple holding a two-year-old's hand as he tugs to escape and be free. And middle-aged single people, now halfway through this life's journey. Young couples, as well, those just married or engaged and so obviously in love, but also widows and widowers longing for the love they once knew. All of these are the body of Christ, the very temple of God built upon the foundation that is Christ Jesus, as Paul notes so well. This is why I watch them processing back to their pews. This, too, is prayer.

Reflect

How do I pray after I've received holy Communion?



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.

2025
ST. JAMES
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday November 22nd, 2025 - 9am to 2pm
St. James Parish Center - 306 3rd Ave. in Edgemont, SD

St. James Famous
Roast Beef Dinner
Served 11am - 1pm

Visit Santa
10am - 11am

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