

# CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES of MEADE COUNTY

Father James P. Dieker

(Pastor)

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**St. Patrick Church**

P.O. Box 247  
Plains, KS 67869  
Phone: 873-2003

**St. John the Baptist Church**

P.O. Box 1207  
Meade, KS 67864  
Phone: 873-2003  
Cell: 575-5520

**St. Anthony Church**

P.O. Box 80  
Fowler, KS 67844  
Phone: 646-5297

website:<https://meadecocatholic.org>

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The Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 22, 2020

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## How to make an Act of Spiritual Communion

provided by STARTUP CATHOLIC | SC

- 1** Make the Sign of the Cross
- 2** If possible, read the Mass Readings uscgb.org/readings
- 3** Recite the Prayer of Spiritual Communion



ET AU PROFUNDIS DE CUORE

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

## Mass Intentions for the Week

22	Sun	(P)	The Third Sunday of Lent
22	Sun	(M)	The Third Sunday of Lent.....For the Parishioners
22	Sun	(P)	The Third Sunday of Lent
23	Mon	(M)	St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop.....+John & Kate Heinz (Doug & Decina Heinz)
24	Tue	(M)	Week day in Lent.....Lost U. S. Military (Janet Cook)
25	Wed	(F)	The Annunciation of the Lord.....+Ron Beckerman (Eric & Tammi Schultz)
26	Thu	(P)	Week day in Lent.....+Stellie Huelskamp (Kevin & Sheila Hageman)
27	Fri	(P)	Week day in Lent.....+Mark Verhoff (Carol Nighswander)
28	Sat	(F)	The Fourth Sunday of Lent.....+Claude & LaVerne Leis (Jan McGregor)
29	Sun	(P)	The Fourth Sunday of Lent
29	Sun	(M)	The Fourth Sunday of Lent .....For the Parishioners
29	Sun	(P)	The Fourth Sunday of Lent

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES:** The blind man was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His message, spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle. Which am I more like, the man born blind or the Pharisees?

	<u><b>FOWLER</b></u>	<u><b>MEADE</b></u>		<u><b>PLAINS</b></u>
ENVELOPES:	\$2,027.00	\$692.00		\$665.00
OFFERTORY:	\$170.00	\$96.25		\$145.30
CHILDREN:	\$10.00	\$6.00	Bldg. Fd.	\$2,050.00
OTHER	\$.00	\$.00		\$.00
RENT:	\$.00	\$500.00		\$.00
CANDLES:	<u>\$14.50</u>	<u>\$28.50</u>		<u>\$.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$2,221.50	\$1,322.75		\$2,860.00
		\$1,250.00		

**HOW DO WE FIND GUYS WHO WANT TO BECOME PRIESTS?** Last week you read about the cost. The question is, how do we find men that have a call to the priesthood? I spoke with Fr. Juan Salas, Director of Priestly Vocations Promotion and here is what he had to say. "We find them by the grace of God". First, if parents are open to their son being a priest. This is a big help. We rely on parishes to identify young men and bring them to Andrew Dinners and other events sponsored by the vocations office. Once identified, the vocations office continues with "check ins" via email, phone, and invitations to events as they occur. Should they decide to pursue a priestly vocation an application is made for a seminary. We do receive a number of inquiries "out of the blue". These men reach out via phone or email. In those cases I (Fr. Juan) meet with them in person and help them determine if they think this is a call from God or not. If so, we begin the application process. Does your parish actively promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life? If so, what are you doing?

**VOCATION VIEWS:** The Lord looks into the heart. What does he see? We are given the gift of sight and insight. Look into the heart with love. (1 Samuel 16:6-13 & John 9:1-41). If you think God is calling you to be a priest, contact Fr. Juan Salas at 620-227-1533 or [vocations@dcdiocese.org](mailto:vocations@dcdiocese.org).

**ABBY JOHNSON PILGRIMAGE TO WICHITA HAS BEEN CANCELED:CRUSADE:** Due to the uncertainty of the Coronavirus, the decision has been made to cancel the Abby Johnson pilgrimage to Wichita on May 2. Thank you to everyone who registered and or inquired about the trip. All payments received will be refunded.

**MUSINGS OF FATHER JIM:** Dear brother and sisters under quarantine, When it comes to prayer, consistency is much more important than intensity. When I heard this assessment of the prayer life, it struck me as very true. In our Lenten practices, too, consistency is much more valuable than the maybe overzealous attempts to begin too enthusiastically the disciplines of Lent. The small consistent steps, the turtle winning over the hare, the marathon runner over the sprint, are what is needed in the spiritual life.

This also seems too true as we embrace the precautions necessary to combat the worldwide exposure to the Covid19 Virus. Consistency is much more important than intensity. Staying home one day is not going to be of much effect, but the discipline of “social distance” and constant sanitary practices will stop the rapid spread of the contagious virus and protect our most vulnerable members.

The example of the sports world should inspire us as well to sacrifice our preferred physical contact and social gatherings to safe and disciplined management of our gatherings. The latest recommendation from today’s press conference by the national task force proposed that as much as possible, we should avoid gatherings of more than 10 people and, then, to work and stay at home as much as possible for the near future. We are speaking of months rather than days. We are speaking of all places, not only the high risk and infected areas. We are speaking of all aspects of life, not just sports events. What began as avoiding huge crowds, then crowds of 250, then crowds of 50 or more, now has reached 10, reminding one of Abraham’s question of God, “what if there is just 10?”

Consistency is more important than intensity. A chain is only as strong as its weakest link. Our consistent solidarity in putting into practice, not extreme measures, but consistent and precautionary measures will serve us well in preventing deaths from this viral epidemic. We will not be able to celebrate public religious services for at least 8 weeks according to the mandate of Governor Kelly. Consistency in our prayer, or as St. Paul says, “Persevere in prayer”, will serve us well in enduring this time of threat. Funerals will be celebrated with family members of less than 50 persons participating. All other communal celebrations are suspended indefinitely. Please participate as you can through social Medias. The daily Mass from his private chapel of the Holy Father is being made available through the internet. Both EWTN and Word on Fire are hosting daily streamed masses. I will be using these days of restraint in working on the parish website and offering my daily private Mass, which I am not allowed to invite anyone to participate with me. I recommend the Formed.org website with your children, as we may have to delay our preparations for First Communion, but that remains fluid with the spread of the virus. We must not forget, that ultimately our trust is in God and we must do everything we can to stay mindful of his presence with us.

In the hidden blessings of the restricted life, Fr. Jim

**TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE CRUSADE:** In an interview with one of the actors for the Movie, Downton Abbey, fashioned after the popular TV series, she said she was grateful to have been part of a movie that the whole family could enjoy, with nothing inappropriate for her children, yet in the movie, one of the characters, the young male butler, “discovers” himself at an illegal gay night club and kisses another man passionately on the lips, a totally unnecessary part of the plot of the movie of the visit of the King and Queen of England to the 1927 family castle. The group, “America Needs Fatima” is sponsoring a rosary campaign for Traditional Marriage to respond to the many attacks on the traditional marriage and family. I encourage you all to offer the rosary on the Feast of the Annunciation, Wednesday, March 25th. The feast of the annunciation is celebrated nine months before Christmas to emphasize the human nature of the Incarnation of God in the miraculous conception of Jesus into the traditional marriage of Mary and Joseph. God’s marriage and the traditional family need our prayers!

**TOTUS TUUS** in our parishes will be the following tentative dates: June 21- 26 – Meade/Fowler; July 12 – 18 – Plains. **Please make note of these dates!**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT FATHER WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED MASS TIMES, IN THE USUAL LOCATIONS, FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION. THESE ARE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES TO PREPARE FOR THE LORD’S COMING AT EASTER!**

#### Announcement for Plains

**GREEN ENVELOPES:** As you can see, the new building project is under way! We have permission from Bishop Brungardt to forego the 10% stewardship that we normally pay into the Diocese each month by using our Green Building Fund Envelopes. Please still support the church using the white envelopes, but all money that is collected using the green envelopes or that is written in the memo of your check that it is specifically for the Building Project, will be exempt from the 10% that we normally send in each month to help pay for the addition. Any and all donations towards this project are greatly appreciated!

**THRIFT SHOP:** For the safety of those who work and shop at the thrift shop. The thrift shop will be closed until further notice. We will not be taking donations while closed. We will not be giving out keys for people to leave donations. Please do not leave donations on the porch.

#### Announcements for Meade

#### Announcements for Fowler

**PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY:** On Monday, there will be rosary for our country at 6:00 p.m.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** will be on Monday, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**TY& JENNIFER WHITE BENEFIT MEAL** has been canceled due to the coronavirus precautions.