

# 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

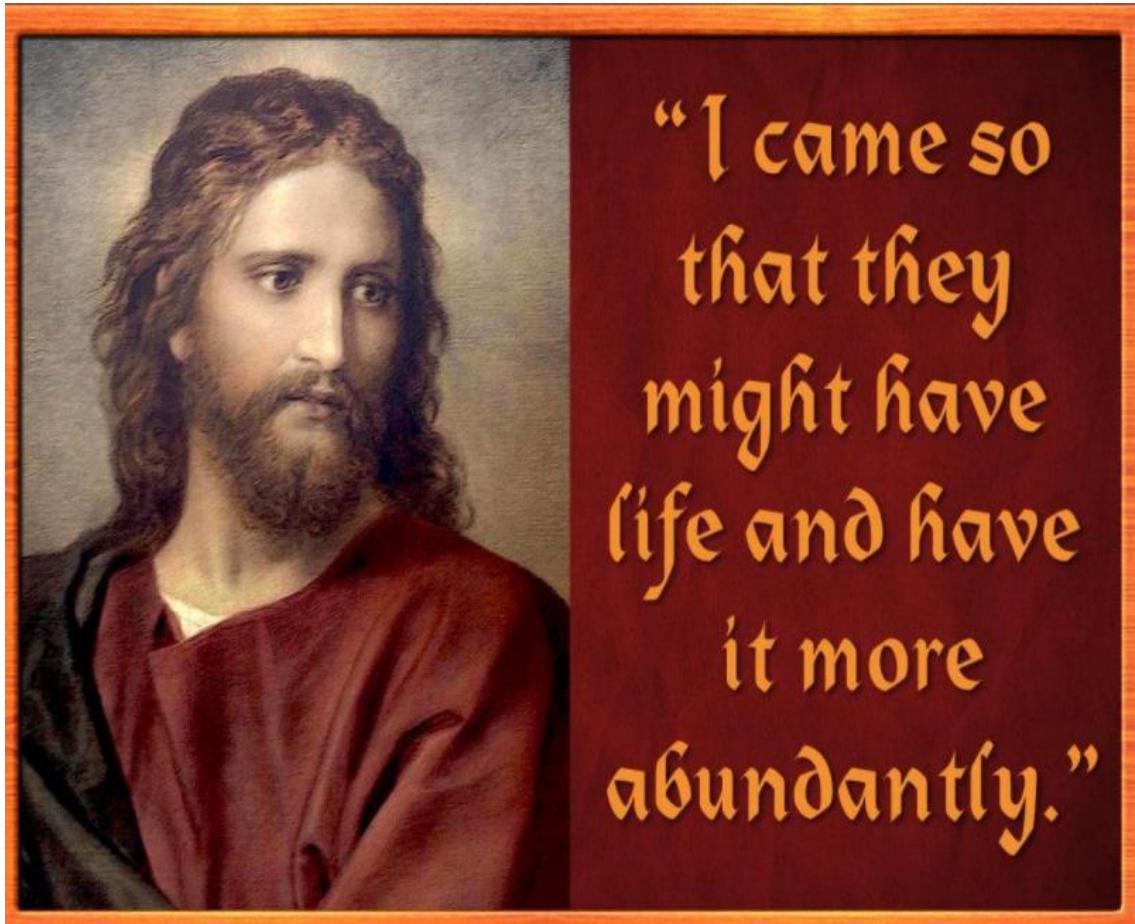
website:<https://meadecocatholic.org>

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Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2020

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## Mass Intentions for the Week

03	Sun	(P)	Fourth Sunday of Easter
03	Sun	(M)	Fourth Sunday of Easter...+C. J. Thomas (Janet Cook)... <u>11:00</u> via Facebook...
03	Sun	(P)	Fourth Sunday of Easter...in Spanish... <u>1:30 p.m.</u> . via Facebook....Catholic Churches
04	Mon	(M)	Monday in the Easter Season.....+LaVerne Leis (Kevin & Sheila Hageman)
05	Tue	(M)	Tuesday in the Easter Season .....+Jim Dale Woodruff (Jim & Diane Woodruff)
06	Wed	(F)	Wednesday in the Easter Season....+Kenneth & Mary Jane Edwards (Phil Edwards)
07	Thu	(P)	Thursday in the Easter Season.....+Mark Verhoff (Carol Nighswander)
08	Fri	(P)	Friday in the Easter Season.....For the Parishioners
09	Sat	(F)	Fifth Sunday of Easter.....+John & Flo Hampel (Doug & Decina Heinz)
10	Sun	(P)	Fifth Sunday of Easter
10	Sun	(M)	Fifth Sunday of Easter.....+Brenda Deanon (John & Debbie Thomas)
10	Sun	(P)	Fifth Sunday of Easter...in Spanish... <u>1:30 pm</u> ...via Facebook...Catholic Churches

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES:** Jesus says, “I came that they may have life, and have it to the full.” Good stewards are grateful for the gift of life and joyfully share their abundance with others.

	<u>FOWLER</u>	<u>MEADE</u>		<u>PLAINES</u>
ENVELOPES:	\$1,620.00	\$588.00		\$100.00
OFFERTORY:	\$62.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
CHILDREN:	\$0.00	\$0.00	Bldg. Fd.	\$50.00
RICE BOWL:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$82.81
OTHER:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
CANDLES:	<u>\$27.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>		<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,709.00	\$588.00		\$0.00
		\$1,250.00		

**UNITED STATES CENSUS:** April 1st was Census Day – but the Census is still ongoing. People who have not responded can still do so by Internet, phone and by mail. We are asking you to help us spread the message - the 2020 Census is taking place and it is important for everyone to respond on Census Awareness Weekend: May 1st, May 2nd, and May 3rd, 2020. Like everyone else going through the current COVID-19 situation, the Census Bureau has had to change, adapt, and pivot how we engage with people living in the United States and its territories. Although we have had to make changes, our mission remains the same: Count EVERYONE once, only once, and in the right place.

**FAITH AND COMMON SENSE:** The Catholic Response to an Epidemic, is an OSV brochure that can be found in the entrance of our Churches. It is just that, a common sense Catholic approach to our current Pandemic. Please pick one up and above all offer the “Prayer during an Epidemic” that is offered in the context of the Catholic view of faith.

**VOCATION VIEWS:** Whose voice will you follow – the Good Shepherd’s or a stranger’s? Pray for a listening heart. (John 10:1-10). Do you hear Jesus’ call to you? Act on it! If you think God is calling you to be a priest, contact Fr. Juan Salas at 620-227-1533 or vocations@dcdiocese.org.

## MUSINGS OF FATHER JIM: Dear faithful in the fields,

Fortunately, we are still able to get out of our homes in the open air, easily fulfilling the social distancing required to slow the spread of the Covid-19 Virus in our rural life. One blogger even highlighted the importance of Vitamin D from sunlight to fight off virus infection. Another referred to the outdoor hospitals constructed in the time of the Spanish Flu Epidemic in 1918. Another sited the risk of suicide due to the claustrophobic conditions of being confined indoors and the lack of natural light. Fortunately, in Meade County, we still have some freedom and space, and did I mention the spiritual value of gardening?

Bishop John, with the priests and staff of the dioceses, has developed a challenging "Pastoral Plan" for our diocese, largely based on the greater pastoral plan of the universal church offered by Pope Francis in his first encyclical, "Evangelizing with Joy" in 2015. It would have taken a prophetic vision to anticipate the great difficulty such a plan would be to implement in the light of a worldwide Virus Epidemic, and yet it has that universality, though more challenging, that still leads us to focus on what is essential.

I would like to speak briefly to the first of the five directives of the Pastoral Plan this week and in the following weeks, taking a moment to speak to each one. (Find them in the bulletin, in the Southwest Kansas Catholic or on the homepage of [www.MeadeCoCatholic.org](http://www.MeadeCoCatholic.org)) A. To Evangelize with Joy – Proclaim Christ's love to all. "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). This is the great commission. "This is your mission, if you choose to accept it", as the classic series, Mission Impossible, always began. And it almost does seem to go up in smoke and we are left to deal with the details. And yet, that directive is the most basic understanding of our purpose as baptized Disciples of Christ, to evangelize with joy!

Social Distancing and Travel Bans could not be more antithetical to this broad and daunting task. I have been amazed how quickly and adeptly many parishes have adapted to use on-line media. Why had we not realized how quickly evil and sinful content could be replaced with the Good News before? Bishop Robert Barron, auxiliary bishop of Los Angeles, has been at the forefront of this leap into the future with his Word on Fire Institute.

How can we replace the fear, doubts, and even death, with joy, and faith, and life? Could there be anything so contagious as this lived presence of God? So, why aren't we more effective? It is because the biggest "source and font" of that life has been socially distanced, our Eucharist. And yet, have we yet really learned to value the precious medicine of grace and offered it freely to the world, as we have freely received it? Some of our catechists have heroically tried to communicate with their young students. We have too long depended on Religious and schools to do the evangelizing. Evangelizing must be essentially in the home! This, ultimately, is what sustains the Church throughout the centuries of evangelizing with joy! The Pastoral plan suggests that we should become more committed to using these newly found tools for evangelization.

-- John 15:12 "Love One Another as I Love You."

Pastoral Plan Outline

Catholic Diocese of Dodge City 2020-2025

A. To Evangelize with Joy – Proclaim Christ's love to all. "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

B. To Catechize in the Catholic Faith with Diligence – Form all as faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ. "Guide me by your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior" (Psalm 25:5).

C. To Build Community with Love – Unite all in a hope-filled relationship with God and one another.

"That they may all be one" (John 17:21).

D. To Pray with Devotion – Worship the Father, through Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Spirit as community and individually.

"Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18).

E. To Serve with Compassion – Accompany all in the Lord, especially the poor.

"Serve one another through love" (Galatians 5:13).

**RICE BOWL:** Our Catholic community in the United States does something amazing each Lent. We come together to practice prayer, fasting and almsgiving—and by doing so we help lift families and communities out of poverty. Thank you. You may turn your donations in to the church, you may give by phone: To give by phone: 1-877-435-7277. Or you may give by mail. To give by mail:

Catholic Relief Services  
CRS Rice Bowl  
P.O. Box 17090  
Baltimore, Maryland 21297-0303

**WORD OF LIFE QUOTE:** “Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.”

USCCB Respect Life flyer quoting Pope Francis’ “Day for Life Greeting” © 2013 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

**WORKING TOGETHER TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS THE ONLY WAY TO END IT.** U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking. (www.sistersagainstrafficking.org) USCSAHT is a 501© 3 organization. 2039 N Geyer Road, St. Louis, MO 63131

#### Announcement for Plains

**ONLINE GIVING:** The website is now set up for online giving. Go to <https://meadecocatholic.org>

**FROM THE DIOCESE:** I regret to inform you that all of our Summer Missions programs (Camp Cristo Rey, Totus Tuus, and Prayer and Action) have been cancelled.

#### Announcements for Meade

**ONLINE GIVING:** The website is now set up for online giving. Go to <https://meadecocatholic.org>

**FROM THE DIOCESE:** I regret to inform you that all of our Summer Missions programs (Camp Cristo Rey, Totus Tuus, and Prayer and Action) have been cancelled.

#### Announcements for Fowler

**PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY:** On Monday, there will be rosary for our country at 5:00 p.m.

**PLEASE UPDATE** your email address to the church office. Our email address is [stanthonyfowler@gmail.com](mailto:stanthonyfowler@gmail.com).

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