

# Dear Padre,

**In the Apostles' Creed, we profess that Jesus "descended into hell." Is there any biblical reference to this? Do we know what he did when he was there?**

Jesus Christ—who experienced death completely—descended to the realm of death. By his resurrection from the dead on the third day, he conquered death and the devil, “who has the power of death” (Hebrews 2:14). Other scriptural references include Acts 3:15, Romans 8:11, 1 Corinthians 15:20, and Hebrews 13:20. An ancient homily for Holy Saturday also attests to this belief: “God has fallen asleep in the flesh and he has raised up all who have slept ever since the world began....Greatly desiring to visit those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death, he has gone to free from sorrow Adam in his bonds and Eve, captive with him....I order you, O sleeper, to awake. I did not create you to be a prisoner in hell. Rise from the dead, for I am the life of the dead.”

According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, “Jesus did not descend into hell to deliver the damned, nor to destroy the hell of damnation, but to free the just who had gone before him” (CCC 633). His descent was to proclaim the Good News to the spirits imprisoned there, bringing “the Gospel message of salvation to complete fulfillment” to all people of all times and all places (CCC 634). Thus, “the gospel was preached even to the dead” (1 Peter 4:6). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

**It is not always easy to discern the Good Shepherd's voice. Be careful. There is always the risk of being distracted by the din of so many other voices. Today we are invited not to let ourselves be distracted by the false wisdom of this world, but to follow Jesus...the one sure guide....**

REGINA CAELI, ST. PETER'S SQUARE, MAY 7, 2017

### MONDAY

May 1  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 11:1–18  
Jn 10:11–18

### TUESDAY

May 2  
St. Athanasius,  
Bishop and Doctor  
of the Church  
Acts 11:19–26  
Jn 10:22–30

### WEDNESDAY

May 3  
Sts. Philip and  
James, Apostles  
1 Cor 15:1–8  
Jn 14:6–14

### THURSDAY

May 4  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 13:13–25  
Jn 13:16–20

### FRIDAY

May 5  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 13:26–33  
Jn 14:1–6

### SATURDAY

May 6  
Weekday  
Acts 13:44–52  
Jn 14:7–14

### SUNDAY

May 7  
Fifth Sunday  
of Easter  
Acts 6:1–7  
1 Pt 2:4–9  
Jn 14:1–12

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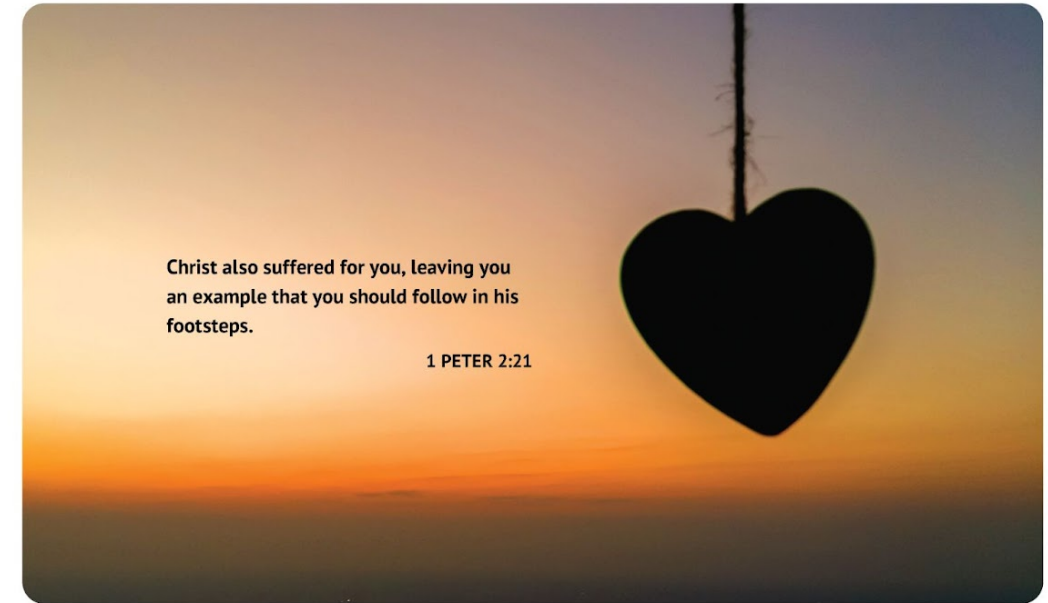
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# Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 30, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter (A)

Acts 2:14a, 36–41 / 1 Peter 2:20b–25 / John 10:1–10



Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps.

1 PETER 2:21

## Saved by Love, Not by Suffering

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**I** am not sure there is any value in suffering in and of itself. Nor do I think God wants us to suffer. That would make him sadistic. Nor is it, then, Jesus' suffering and death that saves us, but rather his love even to the point of suffering and death that saves us. It is his love that reveals the greatness of God's love for us that is so unbelievable. The basis of our faith is Jesus' trust in God, who would bring about life even through death. We also hear the wisdom of St. Peter today: "...If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God" (1 Peter 2:20). Such is the shepherd's voice that teaches us and leads us.

Does anyone ever choose to suffer for doing what is good? Yes. Every day. Spouses become caregivers for husbands or wives robbed of their memories. Each day people go to jobs that are pure drudgery, and they do so because they love their families. Some choose to

live simply, to be countercultural in a consumer society. Others help their community by living in neighborhoods many avoid. Some parents willingly postpone a career in order to be present to their growing family. Teachers often go beyond expectations for students

who need extra help. It is never the suffering of these people that captures and reflects the image of Jesus, but the love even to the point of suffering. ●

### Reflect

**When are you patient in suffering for the sake of doing good?**

**Who has done the same for you?**

# St. Joseph Church & St. Aloysius Church

Edina & Baring, MO  
 Pastor: Fr. Simeon Etonu -  
 Deacon: Rev. Mr. Ken Berry  
 509 North Main Street, Edina,  
 Missouri 63537



stjoel@marktwain.net  
 sasj.diojeffcity.org

Office Hours:  
 Mon-Tues, Thurs-Fri. 1-4 PM

Mass Schedule			Mass Intention
Tues. 5-2	Chapel (Edina)	5:30 PM	Mary Elizabeth Schaffer
Wed. 5-3	Chapel (Edina)	8:00 AM	Maria Berry
Thur, 5-4	St. John (Memphis)	5:30 PM	
Friday 5-5	St. Joseph Church	8:00 AM	No Mass
Sat. 5-6	St. John (Memphis)	5:30 PM	
Sun. 5-7	St. Joseph (Edina)	9:00 AM	People of Parish

**We ask your prayers for those from our parishes & community who are ill or suffering:**  
 David Palmer, Autumn Early, Don Kutcher, Eleanor Pozek, **Bryant Western**, Linda Early, Ken and Marianne Berry, Mark and Joetta Krueger, Cheryl Mayes, Larry and Kay Sykes, Nancy Platz, Walker Clary, Betty Smith, Tina Lonberger, John Pipta, Rosemarie Pipta, Christine Pipta Svitana, Laura Pipta, LaMayra Hicks, Beth Frye, Rosalie Klote Caldwell, Amy Coram, Brooke Pinson, Harold Lentz, Kaitlyn Early Taylor, Eric DeRosear, Dorothy Killday, Lacey Woods, Keith Payne, Judi Bishop, Dan Bishop, Mary Beth Bruegenhemke Renaud, Judy Sharp, Barb Adams and Irene Kaswara

**We ask your prayers for the following Military Personnel:**  
 Quinton Windoffer, Michael Head, Skee Ferguson, Michael Stansberry, Ryan Kriegshauser, Lauren Hudson, Jennifer Schmermund, Jack Franklin, Denis Seiglie, Jude Pipta, Matthew Moore and Brady Johnson.

**PARISH HAPPENINGS: Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 30, 2023**

**NO Holy Hour this week.**

**Rosary:** We have a recitation of the Rosary at **8:30 AM** before Mass in the Church

**April Chapel cleaners May 7- Nena Palmer, May 14- Sandy Devlin, May 21- Phyllis Kutcher, May 28-Kyle Clark**

**The Cathedral of St. Joseph, Rite of Rededication: May 5 at 10:30 AM. Everyone is welcome to Jefferson City for the Rededication. NO Mass here on Friday.**

**Cemetery notice. All remaining decorations after May 6 will be removed in preparation for Memorial Day. Thanks for your assistance. The committee**

Patrick Clark, Sophie Reel, Walter Lay, Isaac Shahan, Anthony Bruegenhemke will be Confirmed in Jefferson City on April 23rd. There is a basket at the back of the church for cards for them this Sunday and next. Please express your excitement and support for these young church family members with a card or handwritten note. There will be a reception celebrating their Confirmations on April 30th after mass.

Weekly Gifts to God & Parish	
St. Joseph April 30, 2023	
April 23, 2023	\$3,895.00
Amount needed weekly	\$2,310.00
Deficit/Surplus	+\$ 1,585.00
Fiscal year to date	\$111,605.54
Needed Fiscal year to date	\$99,330.00
Deficit/Surplus	+ 12,275.54

**Bishop McKnight's April prayer intention for our Local Church**

For all those celebrating the initiation sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and first holy communion this Easter Season, may their discipleship be strengthened by their participation in the life and mission of the Church.

**Liturgical Ministry Assignments for Sunday, May 7, 2023**

**Music Ministry:**  
**Servers:** Thomas Reel, Sophie Reel and Elijah Reel  
**Lector:** Carol Fox  
**Communion Minister:** Larry Clark  
**Ushers:** Kelly Hayes, Connor Hayes, Collin Hayes and Isaiah Prebe  
**Gift Bearers:** Clint Miller family  
**Collection Counters:** Sherry Goodwin and Kim Penn

**Breaking the Silence of Abuse** - As a diocese, we are committed to breaking the silence of abuse. When someone is reporting abuse, we must acknowledge their pain and how difficult it is to talk about it. False allegations are very rare. Our initial response to someone who is disclosing abuse for the first time must be compassionate. For those who need to report abuse, encourage them to contact our Victims Assistance Coordinator, Jacqueline Baldwin, (573-694-3199) and to make use of the appropriate State of Missouri hotline (1-800-392-3738) or the Attorney General's clergy abuse online form. All of this information is also on our website, under the 'report abuse' tab. For those who want information or want to convey a message to Bishop McKnight, please encourage them to write to us at [reportabuse@diojeffcity.org](mailto:reportabuse@diojeffcity.org).

**Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 30, 2023**

**"The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit." Does a life of joy in knowing you are following the Lord as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life inspire you? Contact the Vocation Office at 573-635-9127 ext260**