Dear Padre,


LUIS SANTOS / SHUTTERSTOCK

What happens to the sacred treasures in a deconsecrated Catholic church?

When a diocesan bishop deconsecrates a church, he issues a decree that removes a church's dedication and relegates it to "profane but not sordid use" when it "cannot be used in any way for divine worship and there is no possibility of repairing it" (*Code of Canon Law*, 1222). The impossibility of repairing a badly damaged church doesn't mean only an architectural impossibility. Inadequate finances to maintain the church properly, an insufficient number of parishioners to foster ecclesiastical vitality, and a shortage of priests are also grave causes for a church's closure. Decorative appointments and sacred treasures in these relegated churches often find new homes in other churches and religious institutions.

This traditional custom of dissemination is a sign of solidarity with the broader Church and in continuity with its rich heritage. It honors the faith and sacrifices of the charter members when the church was built and the generations that followed. Remaining religious items in a relegated church, such as an unmovable altar, "lose their dedication or blessing if they have been destroyed in large part, or have been turned over permanently to profane use by decree of the competent ordinary or in fact" (*CCL* 1238). Stained glass windows, mosaics, and other sacred art that remain in a repurposed church don't lose their aesthetic beauty and evocative power, however. "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever," wrote the poet John Keats. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Saturday**	**Sunday**
November 9 *The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica* Ez 47:1–2, 8–9, 12 1 Cor 3:9c–11, 16–17 Jn 2:13–22	November 10 *St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church* Ti 2:1–8, 11–14 Lk 17:7–10	November 11 *St. Martin of Tours, Bishop* Ti 3:1–7 Lk 17:11–19	November 12 *St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr* Phlm 7–20 Lk 17:20–25	November 13 *St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin* 2 Jn 4–9 Lk 17:26–37	November 14 *Weekday* 3 Jn 5–8 Lk 18:1–8	November 15 *Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time* Prv 31:10–13, 19–20, 30–31 1 Thes 5:1–6 Mt 25:14–30 or 25:14–15, 19–21

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about ***Dear Padre***.


FABRIZIO MAFFEI

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Brothers and sisters support each other in hardship; they do not turn their back on those who are in need; and they weep and rejoice together in the active pursuit of unity, trust, and mutual reliance. The dynamic is that which Jesus himself gives to us: "Love one another as I have loved you."

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, NOVEMBER 12, 2025

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Keep Your Light Burning Bright

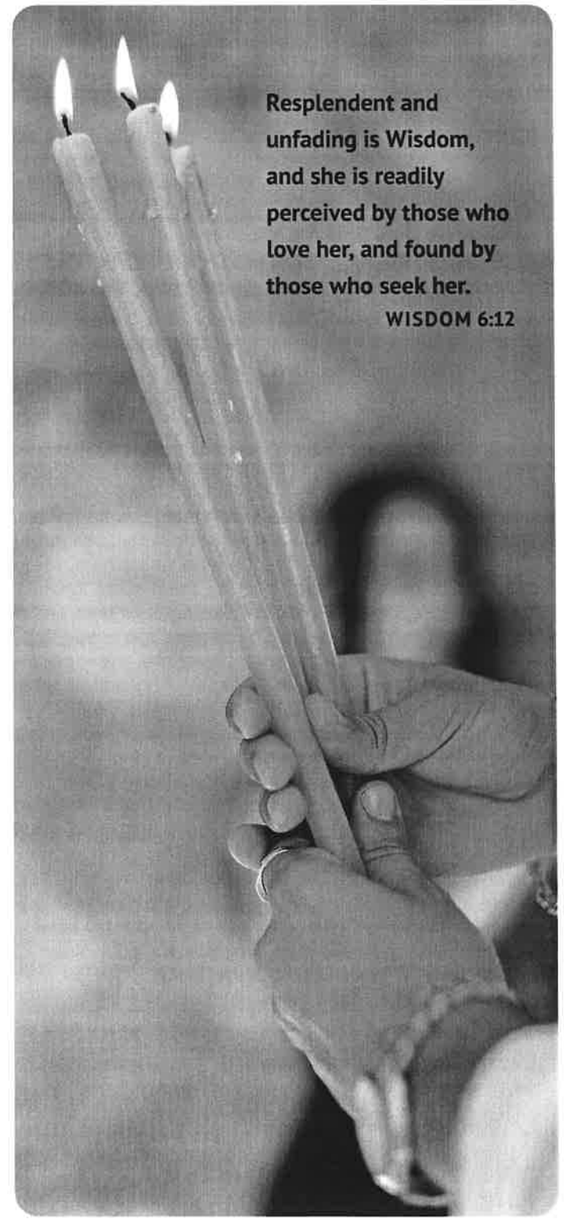
ANN M. GARRIDO

We have entered that time of year when the readings turn our attention toward the "end of time"—that moment we await in which all of God's dreams for us will be realized. The "kingdom of God come." Jesus, like prophets before him, compared this moment to a wedding feast. In Jesus' time, marriage was the most decisive event of one's life, and the wedding feast was the greatest feast families ever celebrated. There was nothing better than a good wedding party—and nothing more embarrassing than a bad one. So much at stake!

In the parable in today's gospel, Jesus focuses on the role of the bridesmaids in making the wedding feast a spectacular event—or not. They are trusted to provide a parade of light to greet the groom as he arrives at his family's home with the bride, but it turns out that not all have prepared adequately.

The parable forces us to consider our own commitment to the Christian life. In baptism, we, too, were given a special role to serve the coming kingdom of God. We, too, were entrusted with a light and told to "keep it burning bright" until that time in which we "come out to greet him." At the beginning of our faith journey, we often embrace this role with much fervor. But we forget that the Christian life takes a good bit of endurance and involves a lot of waiting. We will need oil to keep that light burning bright—the oil of prayer, participation in the sacraments, time spent in study and renewal. No one else can nourish your relationship with God for you. It is something you will need to do yourself. ●

LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF *OUR PARISH COMMUNITY*



Reflect

What are you doing to keep your light of faith burning bright right now?

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St. Mary's Church
718 Francis St.
Dalton, NE 69131



All Souls' Church
617 P St.
Bridgeport, NE 69336



Sacred Heart Church
1003 Ave. B
Bayard, NE 69334

Rev. Tim Stoner
Mailing Address: 701 P Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336
Parish Office: (308)262-0709. Rectory: (308)262-1332 Email: allsoulsbridgeport@gmail.com Website: www.smasshcatholics.org

FROM THE DESK OF FR. TIM: I would like to thank all those who put on the dinner and set up and cleaned up after the dinner this past weekend at All Souls. The results seem to be very good! Thank you to all who attended the dinner it is all greatly appreciated.

During the month of November, the Book of Remembrance is placed in the gathering areas of all 3 parishes. To remember your loved ones, family and friends who have passed away. Just simply write their names in the book. Have a great week!

Everyday Saints Growing up I thought saints were larger than life people with extraordinary stories. The thought that I could one day be revered as a saint by anyone seemed crazy. I wrote my essays on different saints every year in Catholic school right around All Saints Day. These were stories about people I had never met, and I assumed I would never meet anyone like them going forward. Now that I am older, I realize that I was wrong back then and my immaturity of both mind and heart did not allow me to see that there are saints among us all the time. I have met many people in my life that I would call living saints. They are holy people who give of themselves to God and others in profound ways. Their relationship with Jesus is evident and they live their lives in ways that people witness the transformative power of love. As a child I was wrong about saints, but even more importantly, I didn't fully realize that all of us are called to be saints! Me, a saint? Holiness is not something simply studied in books. It is the way of life we are all called to live. The call comes from Jesus Christ and each of us must respond. If we are still thinking like children, we may choose to stay silent and live accordingly. If we are more mature in our faith then we might not only respond, we might one day have a school child write a report about us. Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Date	Day	Time	Place	Intention
11/9	Monday	No Mass Today		
11/10	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Bridgeport	†Cecil Stoner
	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Bridgeport	"She Shall Be Called Woman"
11/11	Wednesday	No Mass Today		
11/12	Thursday	6:30 AM	Bridgeport	"That Man is You"
	Thursday	9:00 AM	Dalton	Pam Ernest
11/13	Friday	9:00 AM	Bayard	† Gerald Thompson
11/14	Saturday	5:30 PM	**Bayard**	† Richard DeHaven
11/15	Sunday	8:00 AM	**Dalton**	† Paul & Lois Ascherl
	Sunday	10:00 AM	Bridgeport	For People of the Parish
	Sunday	1:30-3:00 PM	Bridgeport	OCIA class

ALL SOULS
617 P STREET
BRIDGEPORT NE 69336

MASS TIMES
Tuesday – 6:00 PM
Sunday —10.00 AM

CONFESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM 9:30 AM - 9:45 AM

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	$1205.00
CHILDREN	$16.00
PLATE	$532.00
SUBTOTAL	$1753.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	$1525.00
ALL SAINTS DAY	$275.00
WORLD MISSION	$10.00
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	$40.00
ALL SOULS DAY	$10.00
TOTAL	$2088.00
BUILDING FUND	$12.00
APPEAL GOAL	$5,767.00
DONATIONS	$1425.00
BALANCE	-$4,342.00
DONOR GOAL-22	5

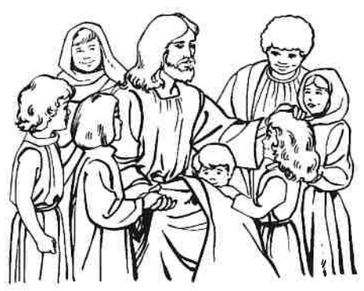
Thank you for your support.

- Prayer line requests may be made to Carolyn-279-2997

Ministries for November 15

Greeter	Server	Lector	Eucharist
Mackenzie	Isaac	Nathan	Doug H
Landon		Terry	Dorothy
			Ken

Rosary



SACRED HEART
1003 AVE B
BAYARD NE 69334

MASS TIMES FOR NOVEMBER
Friday – 9:00 AM
Saturday – 5:30 PM

NOVEMBER MASS SCHEDULE: SATURDAY AT 5:30 PM CONFESSIONS: 5:00-5:15

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

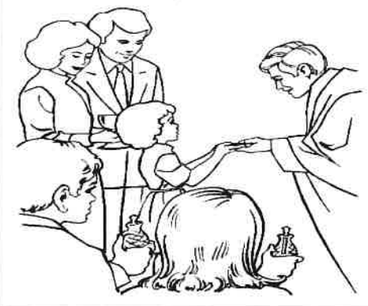
ADULTS	$.00
CHILDREN	$.00
PLATE	$.00
SUBTOTAL	$ 0.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	$885.00
MASS INTENTIONS	
ALL SOULS DAY	
TOTAL	$0.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	$4,381.00
DONATIONS	$1170.00
BALANCE	-$3,211.00
DONOR GOAL – 15	5

Thank you for your support.

- Prayer line requests may be made to Ann 308-225-1609.
- There will be coffee on the Second Sunday.

Ministries for November 14

Greeter	Server	Lector	Eucharist
James	Ariel	Jamie H	Barry
Jamie		Dave T	Tanner
			Anni



SAINT MARY'S
718 FRANCIS ST
DALTON NE 69131

MASS TIMES FOR NOVEMBER
Thursday – 9:00 AM
Sunday– 8:00 AM

NOVEMBER MASS SCHEDULE SUNDAY AT 8:00 AM CONFESSIONS: 7:30-7:45

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	$570.00
CHILDREN	$6.00
PLATE	$181.00
SUBTOTAL	$757.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	$1020.00
MASS INTENTIONS	
ALL SAINTS DAY	$75.00
ALL SOULS DAY	$100.00
TOTAL	$932.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	$7,200.00
DONATIONS	$1,550.00
BALANCE	-$5,650.00
DONOR GOAL – 15	5

Thank you for your support.

- Prayer line requests may be made to DeAnn-249-1735.

Ministries for November 15

Greeter	Server	Lector	Eucharist
Groshans	Earl	Pat	Jenn
Family		Bruce	Carolyn
			Amelia

