



## I Can't Believe It!

**T**his sentence can mean two very contradictory things. It might express skepticism, similar to: "You've got to be kidding!" It means that what we are asked to accept as fact is just too far-fetched. Or we might marvel at something we think is magnificent, far beyond our expectations. Here it means: "I'm speechless!"

Lest we think that the empty tomb alone is proof of Jesus' resurrection, today's Gospel shows us that even his closest friends had initial problems with the idea. When Mary of Magdala found the tomb empty, she did not immediately conclude Jesus had risen. By itself, an empty tomb proves nothing. She thought his body had been taken. In the first reading, Peter describes how later several of Jesus' followers experienced him alive. This experience certainly changed their thinking. Like Peter, they then went out and proclaimed the truth of the resurrection. However, only those who had the experience were sure.

Neither empty tomb nor someone else's personal experience are by themselves certain evidence of the resurrection. Then what is? We find the beginning of an answer in the even-later writing of Paul. Speaking to the Colossians he says: "For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God" (3:3). In other words, the real proof of the resurrection is the faith of centuries of Christians whose lives have been changed by that faith. In other words, the way you and I live proclaims whether Jesus is alive and well in us.

I can hardly believe it.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR Reflection

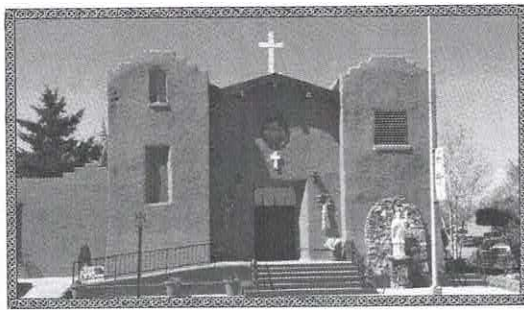
- \* *We may have to wait for our own resurrection to get insight into the resurrection of Jesus. Pray for a deepened faith.*
- \* *What might you do to make your own life a stronger witness of Jesus' resurrection?*



*[Mary of Magdala]  
told them,  
"They have taken the  
Lord from the tomb,  
and we don't know  
where they put him."*

JOHN 20:2

BACHATA SINTHONGCHAKUL SHUTTERSTOCK



# St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

115 N. First Street, Clayton, NM 88415

Office and Fax: (575) 374-8894 Email: sfxclayton@gmail.com

Rectory: (575) 374-8900 (After 9:00 PM-Emergency Only)

Missions: Des Moines, Folsom, Moses, NENM Detention Facility

[www.sfxclayton.org](http://www.sfxclayton.org)

## Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Joseph Baltz  
Business Manager/Finance: Theresa Gard  
Secretary: Laekyn Wagner  
Religious Education: Rose Ramirez  
Adult Religious Education: Fr. Joseph Baltz

## Parish Office Hours (CCD Building)

Tuesday: 9:00AM-5:00PM  
Thurs, 8:00AM -1:00PM  
Closed on Mon, Wed, Fri

## Sacrament of Baptism

(Classes and Parents Interview)  
Contact Pastor

## Sacrament of Marriage

(Classes and Couple Interview)  
Contact Fr. Joseph -6 Months Prior

## Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

By appointment with the Pastor

## APRIL 10TH

### St. Francis Xavier, Clayton

Weekend Mass: Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 10:30am

Daily Mass: Wednesday: 12:10pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:30pm Friday:12:10pm

Confession: Saturday 4:00-5:00pm OR By Appointment

Adoration: Tuesday & Thursday 6pm to 7 pm

### Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Moines

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00am (Oct 1 - May 31)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

Honor of Our Blessed Mother Mass 1st Saturday of the  
Month:10:30am

### St. Joseph, Folsom

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00 am (Jun 1 - Sept 30)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

### NENM Detention Facility, Clayton (For Residents/Staff)

1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday's Mass 2:00PM

Confession: Sunday 1:30pm—2:00

### Nursing Home, Clayton

Every 4th Sunday 2:00 PM

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*This is my body, which will be given up for you.  
 This is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal  
 covenant, Which will be poured out for you & for many for the for-  
 givenness of sins.  
 Do this in memory of me.*

*Masses will be offered April & May 2022  
 + All the Departed Parishioner's & Family Members  
 SI All the Sponsors, Benefactors & Supporters of SFX Clayton  
 SI Good Health & Well Being of all Parishioners & Families*

|             |                                                        |                                                                                  |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| at, Apr. 16 | +Irene Miera<br>+Rene Valdez<br>+Jody Leal             | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Sammie & Raymond Wood<br>by Sammie & Raymond Wood |
| un, Apr. 17 | +Tim Gallagher<br>+Inez Romero<br>+Diana Segura        | by Donna Kimble<br>by Debra, Pam & Andrea<br>by Sammie & Raymond Wood            |
| at, Apr. 23 | +Irene Miera<br>+Rene Valdez<br>+Jody Leal             | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Sammie & Raymond Wood<br>by Sammie & Raymond Wood |
| un, Apr. 24 | +Tim Gallagher<br>+Margaret Heringa<br>+Irene Miera    | by Donna Kimble<br>by Loretta Butler<br>by Sammie Wood                           |
| at, Apr. 30 | +Irene Miera<br>+Diana Segura                          | by Sammie & Raymond Wood<br>by Sammie & Raymond Wood                             |
| (OLOG)      | SI 30th Anniversary of<br>Confirmation of Dale Kissner | by Carol Kissner                                                                 |
| un, May 1   | +Inasita Padilla                                       | by PeeWee, Laura & Vivian                                                        |
| at, May 7   | +Inez Romero                                           | by Debra, Pam & Andrea                                                           |
| un, May 8   | +Eloisa Valdez<br>+Sofia Martinez<br>+Helen Trujillo   | by Judy Steen<br>by Judy Steen<br>by Claude Trujillo & Family                    |

**Weekly Collections Summary: Mar. & Apr. 2022**

|             | <u>SFX</u> | <u>OLOG</u> |
|-------------|------------|-------------|
| April 2-3   | \$1,330.00 | \$ 551.00   |
| March 26-27 | \$1,425.00 | \$ 339.25   |
| March 19-20 | \$2,206.00 | \$ 248.00   |

**Thank you so much for your generosity!**

*Please visit the following very informative websites:*

- [www.archdiocesesantafe.org](http://www.archdiocesesantafe.org)
- [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)
- [w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html)
- [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)
- [www.catholic culture.org](http://www.catholic culture.org)

**Easter Lillies are Available**

**We have 25 Available.  
\$25 each**

**Please come by the office or call the to reserve yours. They will be displayed in the church during the Easter Season**

Confession and Masses will return to their normal times.  
 No more classes on Wednesday with Father Joseph.

"Jesus Christ our King is Risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!" (Easter Exsultet). Today is the Feast of Feasts, the foundation of all that we celebrate in our faith. By rising from the dead, Jesus did not only conquer his death; he conquered ours. He overturned the entire kingdom of death! He has opened the way to the true destiny of the human person: to be on the throne of God forever, in life that knows no end!

Because of this, we are the People of Life. We seek to apply the victory of Jesus over death to the problems of our day. We are a pro-life people, and reject the false solutions of abortion and euthanasia. Rather, we say yes to every life, no matter how vulnerable or burdensome. It is an Easter yes; it is a yes filled with hope. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad!

**Lectors for Masses**

- Sat, Apr. 23– Sammie Wood
- Sun, Apr. 24– Effie Walker
- Sat, Apr. 30– Ross Carter

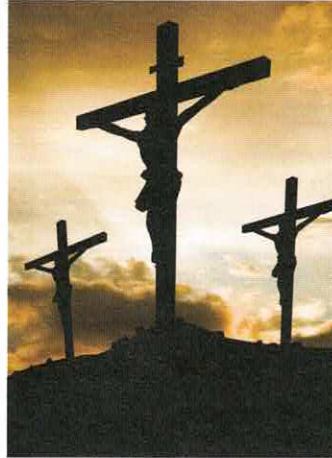
# Dear Padre,

## The Church says unless you're baptized, you will not enter heaven. So how was the unbaptized good thief able to enter paradise?

Jesus was crucified with two thieves. One taunted Jesus, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us." The other, rebuking him, said Jesus had done nothing criminal adding, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied to him, saying, "Today you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:39-40, 42-43).

When the good thief rebuked the other, how did he know Jesus had done nothing wrong or that Jesus was going to his kingdom when he died? Scripture provides no background on the good thief to suggest he was baptized, but he's evidently familiar with Jesus' reputation before the crucifixion.

Regardless, even to his dying breath, Jesus desired for all a conversion experience with our compassionate God. God desires salvation for everyone. However, "God has bound salvation to the sacrament of baptism, but he himself is not bound by his sacraments" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1257). So while the typical way of salvation is through baptism, our merciful God can also give baptismal grace without the sacrament being conferred! For example, when unbaptized infants die, we have "hope that God will save [them] when we have not been able to do for them what we would have wished to do, namely, to baptize them" (2007 Vatican Commission, "The Hope of Salvation for Infants Who Die Without Being Baptized," 103).



WEL BURNSTUART / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)

### A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Jesus' answer does not leave [the good thief] waiting; he speaks of the present. He says, "Today you will be with me in Paradise." In the hour of the cross, the salvation of Christ reaches its height; and his promise to the good thief reveals the fulfillment of his mission: that is, to save sinners.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, SEPTEMBER 28, 2016



## Calendar

### Monday

APRIL 18

Easter Weekday  
Acts 2:14, 22-33  
Mt 28:8-15

### Tuesday

APRIL 19

Easter Weekday  
Acts 2:36-41  
Jn 20:11-18

### Wednesday

APRIL 20

Easter Weekday  
Acts 3:1-10  
Lk 24:13-35

### Thursday

APRIL 21

Easter Weekday  
Acts 3:11-26  
Lk 24:35-48

### Friday

APRIL 22

Easter Weekday  
Acts 4:1-12  
Jn 21:1-14

### Saturday

APRIL 23

Easter Weekday  
Acts 4:13-21  
Mk 16:9-15

### Sunday

APRIL 24

Second Sunday of Easter  
(Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Acts 5:12-16  
Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13,  
17-19  
Jn 20:19-31

Do you have  
a question for  
the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)  
to send your question  
and to learn more  
about Dear Padre.

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