

Dear Padre,

I am a senior Catholic woman. All my life, I have waited for the Church to welcome women as priests. I have volunteered with numerous faiths over the years and have worked with pastors and rabbis who are women. Why does the Catholic Church not recognize that women have callings to the priesthood?



CARLOS MARIEL / CONTRASTO

My answer will probably not be acceptable to you, and it might even make you a little more frustrated and perhaps even discouraged. The understanding of the Church is that the call to priesthood is not based on merit. If it were based on merit, and that was the single important criterion, your question might be phrased in a different way. I will let you imagine what that might be!

The tradition, practice, and discipline of the Church continues to insist that the call to ordained priesthood requires the respondent to be male. Any explanation beyond this simple statement would be strained and of little use. We are aware of the traditions that are practiced in other Christian denominations. We are probably aware of the Roman Catholic theology of priesthood that is offered in support of the practice. We can probably offer example after example in support or in disagreement of the practice. None of it matters when it comes up against the hard truth of the tradition, practice, and discipline: the priesthood requires a baptized male for validity. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

At Pentecost, the apostles spoke the languages of those they met, and the confusion of Babel was finally resolved by the harmony brought about by the Spirit. Whenever God's "breath" unites our hearts and makes us view others as our brothers and sisters, differences no longer become an occasion for division and conflict.

HOMILY, ROME, JUNE 8, 2025

VEITRE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday

May 25

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Gn 3:9-15, 20 or
Acts 1:12-14
Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday

May 26

St. Philip Neri, Priest
1 Pt 1:10-16
Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday

May 27

Weekday

1 Pt 1:18-25
Mk 10:32-45

Thursday

May 28

Weekday

1 Pt 2:2-5, 9-12
Mk 10:46-52

Friday

May 29

Weekday

1 Pt 4:7-13
Mk 11:11-26

Saturday

May 30

Weekday

Jude 17, 20b-25
Mk 11:27-33

Sunday

May 31

The Most Holy Trinity

Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9
2 Cor 13:11-13
Jn 3:16-18

Our Parish COMMUNITY

May 24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday (A)

Acts 2:1-11 / 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 / John 20:19-23



A Gift for All People of All Times

ANN M. GARRIDO

When reading aloud today's passage from *Acts of the Apostles*, do you stumble over the names of the peoples gathered as I do? "Parthians, Medes, and Elamites." Where is "Cappadocia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia"? And why were all these peoples in Jerusalem in the first place?

It might help to know that Pentecost did not originate as a Christian feast. There are three pilgrimage festivals that drew Jews from across the Mediterranean region to Jerusalem. Sukkot celebrates the fall harvest and God's protection during the exodus from Egypt. Two are in the spring: Passover, the Feast of the Unleavened Bread, recalling the night the Jews were freed from enslavement in Egypt; and Shavuot, or *Pentecost* in Greek, remembering the giving of God's law on Mount Sinai.

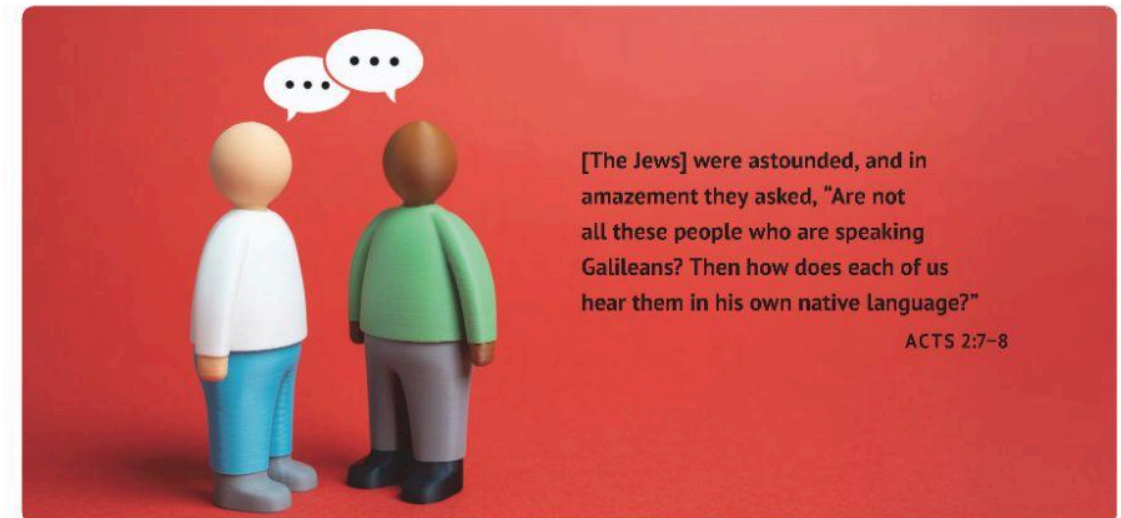
The scene described in Acts echoes the story at Mount Sinai. The peoples who gathered outside the house in Jerusalem represent the breadth and diversity of peoples known at that time, and not just at that time. Some of the civilizations mentioned had not existed for hundreds of years. The book of Acts wants us to know that the gift of the Holy Spirit was an event of such significance that somehow *all* were mysteriously present—not just those of times gone by, but even we who live in such far-away, hard-to-pronounce places as Islamabad or Albuquerque. Today, we celebrate a gift that transcends time and geography. A gift that continues to draw all of us together in wonder and awe. ●



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Reflect

Do I often remember that the Church encompasses people of every nation: those gone before us and those to come?



[The Jews] were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his own native language?"

ACTS 2:7-8



Weekly Bulletin

May 23-24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday

Parish Office: 254 - 647 - 3163

Website: stritacatholicranger.org

Office closed Monday May 25th for Memorial Day.

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN - Thank you!

Thank you for your generosity toward last week's collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Your support helps CCC fulfill its mission of love to share the gospel message of hope. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/cc.

2026 DAY OF REFLECTION - August 20th

Renewing our Baptismal call during the Centenary of World Mission Sunday. In preparation for the historic celebration of *100 years of World Mission Sunday*, we invite you to join us for a Day of Reflection on **Thursday, August 20, 2026** from **9:30 AM - 1:30 PM**, at **St. Matthew Parish**, 2021 New York Ave., **Arlington, TX 76010**, to reflect as missionary disciples on how we can proclaim, live, and share the faithful love of God in our world today. The keynote speaker will be **Father Juan Molina**, President and CEO, of the Mexican American Catholic College in San Antonio, Texas. For more information go to fwdioc.org/day-of-reflection.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please pray for the sick: Donna Boschart, Jane Dooly, Benjamin Flores & family, Jax Jordan, Larry Owings

MASS INTENTIONS

For the repose souls of **+Gloria Boyd**, requested by Holy Rosary Altar Society, Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Cisco.

POPE LEO PRAYER INTENTION

May 2026 - That everyone might have food Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

MOVIE MATINEE - May 31st

Come enjoy a religious movie with your family and friends in fellowship at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Hall at 2:00 PM. Refreshments are provided. The Chosen series will be continued this month.

2026 VOCATION AWARENESS PROGRAM - June 12th to 14th

A Weekend of Discernment, June 12-14, 2026 **University of Dallas**, Irving Discernment is not a journey you need to make alone. Since 1990 the annual Vocation Awareness Program has provided a unique and proven opportunity for *single Catholic men and women, 18-40*, to join others in seeking answers to questions they have about life as a Priest, Sister, Brother, or Consecrated Lay Woman. The weekend includes presentations, panel discussions, Q&A periods, and one-on-one dialogue with Priests, Sisters, and Brothers. Rooms are provided for no fee, and no one will pressure you or seek a commitment. *Learn more or to apply contact the Diocese Vocations Office, 817-945-9321.*

Application Deadline is May 26, 2026.

Lights, Catholic, Action!

Lights, Catholic, Action! S2 Ep. 39: The Faith That Carried a Police Officer In this episode, retired Fort Worth police officer and Knight of Columbus Pat Henz shares unforgettable stories from decades in law enforcement—and how faith, family, and prayer carried him through some of the darkest moments imaginable. From crime scenes and high-speed pursuits to the powerful legacy of his mother's "Shield a Badge with Prayer" ministry, Pat reveals what it truly means to serve and protect with courage rooted in Christ. Watch on YouTube or listen on your favorite podcast platform! You can find a link on our church website under Media/News. stritacatholicranger.org

STEWARDSHIP

May 16 & 17, 2026

St. John	\$ 551
St. Rita	\$ 939
St. Francis	\$ 403
Holy Rosary	\$ 996

Communication Campaign

\$ 109
\$ 169
\$ 272
\$ 255

STRAWN - ST. JOHN

Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM: Mass

Wednesday

4:00 - 4:30 PM:

Confession/Adoration

4:30 PM: Mass

2nd Thursday - Monthly

St. Boniface, Dodson Prairie

4:00 PM: Confession/ Adoration

4:30 PM: Mass

CISCO - OUR LADY OF

THE HOLY ROSARY

Sunday

8:00 AM: Mass

Wednesday

8:30 AM: Confession/Adoration

9:00 AM: Mass

RANGER - ST. RITA

Sunday

9:45 AM: Mass

Tuesday

5:30 - 6:00 PM:

Confession/Adoration

6:00 PM: Mass

EASTLAND - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Sunday (Español)

11:15 AM: Mass

Thursday (Español)

6:30 - 7:00 PM: Confession/Adoration

7:00 PM: Mass

1st Friday - Monthly (Español)

7:00-8:00 PM: Adoration

3rd Saturday - Monthly (Español)

9:00 AM: Mass

PARISH OFFICE: 254 - 647 - 3163

Monday - Thursday, 9 AM - 3 PM

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