

Dear Padre,

When is it OK to medicate for pain? If my relative is in hospice, should I permit the use of drugs that hasten his or her death?

When someone we love is dying, we do not want him or her to be in pain. It is only natural to want to ease or end all suffering. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* offers these guidelines: "The use of painkillers to alleviate the sufferings of the dying, even at the risk of shortening their days, can be morally in conformity with human dignity if death is not willed as either an end or a means, but only foreseen and tolerated as inevitable" (CCC 2279). In other words, it is permissible to medicate for pain, but you must not use narcotics as an end or means to hasten someone's death—only to alleviate pain and minimize a person's suffering. To give medication to cause death rather than merely to relieve pain is not allowed.

It is important to have a discussion about the types of treatment a person would want when they are dying. It is also important to have a discussion with your pastor or another priest or chaplain—someone who can help you discern whether the action, the intention, and the circumstances are consistent with Church teaching. Many times, one is forced to make very difficult decisions about medical care, and it is always good to have someone we trust who can help us make the best choice. 🍌



Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	St. Matthias, Apostle	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:1-10	Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 Jn 15:9-17	Acts 13:13-25 Jn 13:16-20	Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6	Acts 13:44-52 Jn 14:7-14	Acts 14:21-27 Rv 21:1-5a Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

What do those who follow Christ do?... They go to seek those who are lost (cf. Lk 15:4), they take an interest in those who are far away, take to heart the situation of those who suffer, know how to weep with those who weep, they reach out their hands to their neighbors, carrying them on their shoulders.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 8, 2022



To Be or Not to Be...Spiritual

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

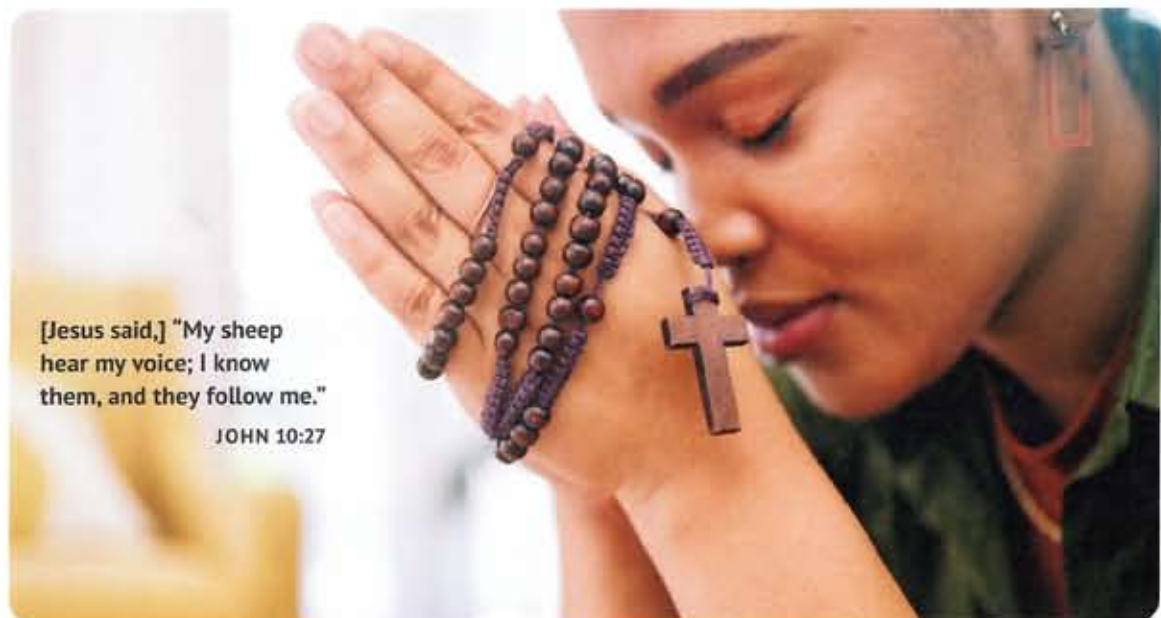
Just as we may hear the voice of our mother echoing in our head long after she has passed away, in much the same way do we who gather week after week as people of faith begin to hear the words and wisdom of the Lord Jesus. It is how he shepherds us, and how we follow him—by hearing and then living his word.

There are some who say they are not religious, but they are spiritual. Ultimately, to be spiritual is to have a core set of values by which one lives. One's core values can take many shapes. For us, who call ourselves disciples of Jesus, to be spiritual is to take on the values and wisdom of Jesus—to allow his way to take root in the core of who we are. It means living by the wisdom of his word. Being spiritual includes *honesty, gentleness, patience, joy, civility, simple living, mercy, compassion, peace, reverence and awe, obedience, justice, courage, balance in life, humility, chastity, kindness, generosity, lightheartedness, care for the common good, prayerfulness, and respect for all of creation as holy.*

Spirituality is about absorbing the lifestyle of Jesus, about his word echoing in our lives, something that takes a lifetime. Religion, specifically our Catholic faith, is the practice of that spirituality in the company of others who are also trying to put those values into practice. Such practice, including weekly Mass and participation in the sacramental life of the Church, is necessary for the faithful followers of Jesus. 🍌

Reflect

**Which qualities of a spiritual person do I have?
What do I need to work on?**



[Jesus said,] "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

JOHN 10:27



St. James Church

Fr. Tim Kozak, Pastor

St. James: 740.962.2856 St. Bernard: 740.984.2555

257 E. Bell Avenue, McConnelsville, OH 43756

StJamesMcConnelsville.org facebook.com/StBernardBev

contact@StJamesMcConnelsville.org

Love God. Love Neighbor. Make Disciples.

Sacrament of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick: Call Fr. Tim

Sacrament of Matrimony: Call the rectory six months in advance

Sacrament of Baptism: Call the rectory three months in advance

	Lector	Server	EMHC	Greeter
This Sat.	H. Schaad		L. Schaad	J. Corcoran
Next Sat.	S. Staib	MJ Drobina	H. Schaad	J. Corcoran

Mass Intentions	
Sat., May 10 th	Patricia Vigne† <i>By Joe & Carol Hatem</i>
Tues. May 13 th	Lawrence & Maxine Weiner† <i>By Ruth Ann Baker</i>
Sat., May 17 th	Blessings on Pope Leo XIV <i>By Fr. Tim Kozak</i>

Bulletin	<i>St. Bernard Office 740.984.2555 contact@StJamesMcConnelsville.org</i>
Ministry Scheduling	<i>Holly Schaad 220.206.3555 schaadh@gmail.com</i>
Parish Council	<i>Carol Hatem 740.559.3770</i>
Prayer Network	<i>JoAnn Scholl 740.962.3282 Pat Hambel 740.962.2214</i>
Social Concerns	<i>Kelly Fisher 740.516.3576</i>
CWC President	<i>Mary Goode 740.962.5963</i>
KrogerCommunityRewards.com	<i>Joe Hatem 740.559.3770</i>

Please Remember in Your Prayers	
<i>Brian Burns, Toni Pratt, Pope Francis†, Msgr. Larry Luciana†, Jack Richards†, Pat Hambel, Fr. Sam Saprano†, Ron Muetzel, David Hutson, Chris Stine, Fr. Jack McCoy, Bill Stine</i>	

Regular Collection:	\$85
DPSC:	\$1,005
Home Mission Collection:	\$10

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11th, 2025

Pray for our New Pope: Make sure to pray for Pope Leo XIV. It is a tremendous responsibility to lead 1.4 billion souls. May Pope Leo XIV faithfully and diligently exercise the three *munera* of a bishop: to teach, to govern and to sanctify.

M is for the Million Things You Gave Me: This Sunday is Mother's Day. Make sure to do something to let your mother know how much you appreciate all of the good things that she has done for you. If your mother has passed away, consider doing a plenary indulgence.

Parish Blood Drive: The St. Bernard CWC is hosting a blood drive **on Thursday, May 22nd, from noon-6:00pm in the St. Bernard Parish Hall.** This is a great opportunity to give the gift of life. Blood can be donated about every two months. You can sign up online at www.RedCrossBlood.org.

Donations for June Social: The St. Bernard Social is Wednesday, June 25th, and you can help to make this a big success. The CWC is looking for items, services and cash donations. **Please contact Pat Brooker at 740.984.4083.**

50th Anniversary of Fr. Tim Shannon: Please join Father Tim on **Sunday, June 1st, as he presides at the 11:30am Mass at St. Mary in St. Clairsville.** Please RSVP with the number attending by May 9th at 740.695.9993 or office@stmarychurchstc.com.

Madonna Plan Collection: The CWC will continue holding their annual collection **this weekend.** The proceeds help empower mothers and expectant mothers of the third world with health, education and finances. There are envelopes in your box of church envelopes and there is a collection can near the entrance to the church. Thank you for your generosity.

Spaces at DCCW: There are 1 or 2 more spaces for women who want to attend the DCCW Convention on Wednesday, June 4th. Please contact Mary at 740.962.5963.

Teaching Position at St. John School: St. John Central School is seeking a dedicated **3rd grade teacher** for the upcoming school year. For more information, please contact the school at 740.896.2697. You can send your resume to:

St. John Central School
Attn: Rebecca Hilverding
17654 SR 676
Marietta, OH 45750

Pray for our Seminarians: Please continue to pray for our seminarians, especially Caleb Baker who has just finished his second year. A number of the seminarians will travel to Rome this coming week.

Please Mark Your Envelopes for DPSC: If you want your weekly donation to be used toward DPSC, please make sure to clearly write *DPSC* on your envelope so the counters know.