



## Open Door

MIGUEL DULICK

**I**t is “Good Shepherd Sunday,” and the gospel quotes Jesus: “I am the gate for the sheep.” It seems the oddest of Jesus’ “I am” identities, until you realize that the shepherd himself was often the literal gate of the sheep’s pen, as he would lay his own body across the entrance to keep the sheep secure and safe from any predators. Actually, the predators that worry Jesus the most are other shepherds—“strangers” who came before him, all of whom Jesus flatly denounces as “thieves and robbers.”

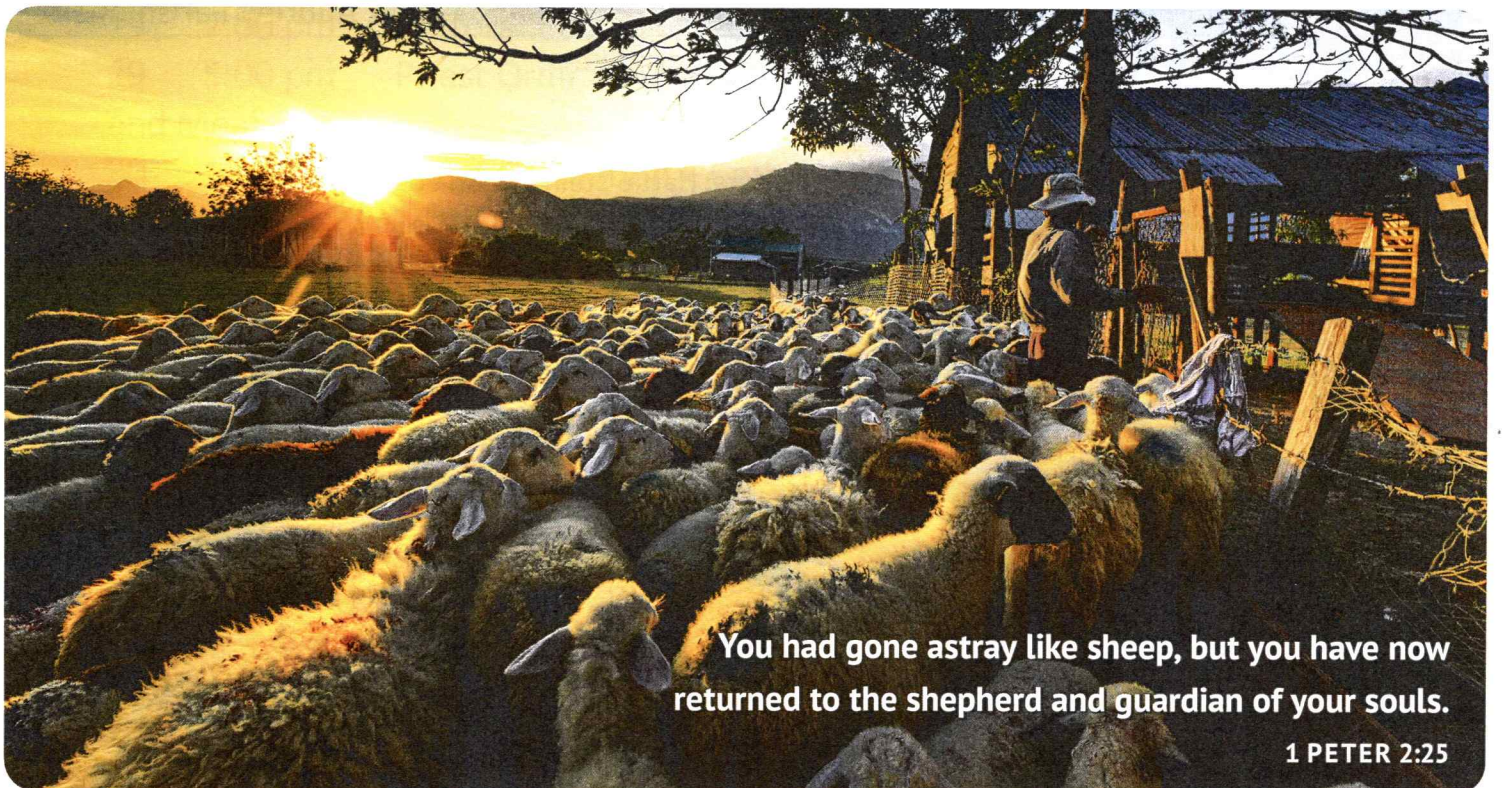
Does that scare us today? Are we vulnerable to attacks, even from those supposedly in charge of our care? When Jesus opens the gate, we go in and out through him, through Jesus, to find pasture. We follow

him because we recognize “his voice.” In the synodal Church that Pope Francis called us to, and to which we continue to be called by Pope Leo XIV, every voice is welcome and needed so that the Holy Spirit will fill the whole Church with truth.

Here in Honduras, where I live, folks with little education can offer profound witness to the love of God. It comes from their own intimacy with Jesus, recognizing his voice in their daily life. They are often the poor victims of widespread corruption, like “a thief [who] comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy.” Here in Honduras, we take refuge in Jesus, that we “might have life and have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). ●

### Reflect

*How can we recognize voices that speak the truth? How do we recognize Jesus’ voice?*



**You had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.**

**1 PETER 2:25**

# St. Andrew Catholic Church

10893 Saint Andrew Road • PO Box 125 • Wright, Kansas 67882



**Pastor:** Fr. Ted Stoecklein  
**Office:** (620) 227-3363  
**Chancery:** (620) 227-1555  
**Email:** vicargeneral@dcdiocese.org

**Webmaster:** Regina Lix  
regina.lix@gmail.com

**To reserve the Parish Center:**  
Call or text Barbara Durler  
(620) 255-1868

## Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 26, 2026

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Feast</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Monday			
Tuesday	8:00 am	St. Louis de Monfort	Sam Mages
Wednesday	8:00 am	St. Catherine of Siena	John and Ida Theis Family
Thursday	8:00 am	Easter Weekday	Mary Smith
Friday	8:00 am	St. Joseph the Worker	Steve Fury
Saturday	8:00 am	St. Athanasius	Ronald Harms
Sunday	9:00 am	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Saint Andrew Parishioners

**Confessions: Sunday 8:00 – 8:45 am or by appointment any time**

### Ministers for next Sunday, May 3, 2026

**Greeters:** Matthew & Victoria Cornitius

**Collection:** Steve Lutz & Justin Weil

**Cantor:** Karen Herrington

**Servers:** James Hamilton, Jessa Hamilton, Emersyn Vigness

**Lectors:** Hattie Stein & Alan Vogel

**E.M.C.'s:** Greg Lix, Jim Burke, Mary Beth Helfrich

**Gifts:** Sheila McCarty

**Rosary:** Delbert Downey

### Giving Report: 4-19-26

Envelopes: \$1,673.00

Loose: \$182.00

Electronic: \$1,363.00

Alms for Renovation Project: \$67,345.69



Parish School of Religion, (PSR) is this week. Vocations Commission provides the meal.

The men's Cor Group will meet Tuesday, April 28 in the parish center at 8:00. All men of the parish are invited to join us. This session will focus on The Eucharist: Source of our Healing and Hope.

**The Spring Social** this year is scheduled for May 3, directly after Mass. We will be having hot dogs and pulled pork, Mac n cheese, veggies, and pie! Raffles and games for all! Please come and join us.

Deacon Carson Haupt's birthday is May 3rd. You may send birthday wishes to him at: 3231 N. 14th Ave, Dodge City, KS 67801-4906

All are invited to the Priesthood Ordination Mass!

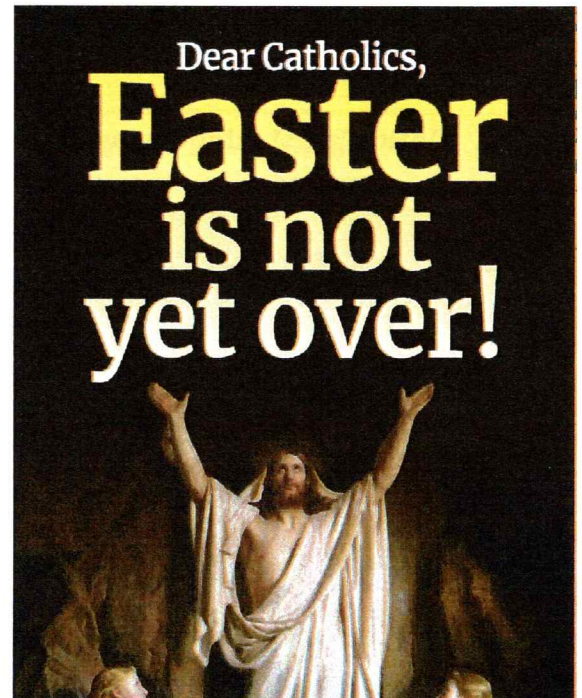
Bishop John B. Brungardt will ordain Deacon Carson Haupt, Deacon Eric Frieb, and Deacon Esteban Hernández-Mejía to the Order of Presbyter.

**10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 30, 2026**

**Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dodge City**

### St. Andrew Parish Calendar for May

- 1 6:30 pm First Friday Holy Hour
- 1-3 K of C State Convention in Topeka, Kansas
- 3 After Mass - Spring Social
- 4 6:30 pm Altar Society
- 6 6:30 pm PSR – May Crowning – Liturgy Commission Provides Meal
- 10 9:00 am Graduates Honored
- 13 6:30 pm Confirmation
- 17 After Mass – Breakfast
- 17 1:00 – 3:00 Priest Anniversary Reception
- 19 6:00 pm Finance Council
- 19 7:00 pm Pastoral Council
- 29 5:00 pm Priest Ordination Holy Hour and Meal
- 30 10:00 am Priest Ordination – Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 31 Nominations for new Commission Members
- 31 A Youth Event



**Hospitable Community + Prayerful Worship +  
Generous in Service + Formed by the Word**

# Dear Padre,

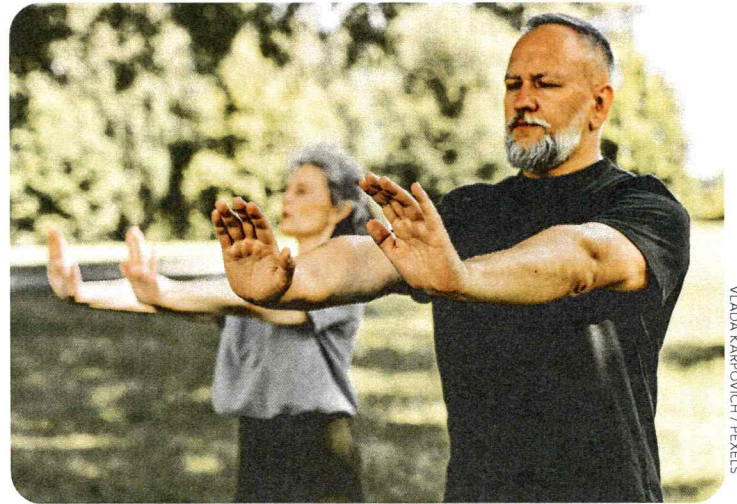
***Should Christians avoid practicing qi gong or tai chi? Or even meditation in which you empty your mind? Thank you.***

This is one of those questions that has been debated for a long time. Social media offers many so-called experts with vastly different opinions. It can be very confusing, particularly if you are looking for a black-and-white answer, a yes or a no.

The pope who provides us with the most helpful direction to answer this question is Pope Benedict XVI. He did not forbid Eastern spiritual practices entirely but warned against their integration into Christian life without proper discernment. His perspective was rooted in a theological understanding that Christian spirituality is a unique path focused on a relationship with Christ. He emphasized that our Catholic spiritual tradition is distinct from the goals and methods of non-Christian traditions. He believed the practice of such non-Christian traditions, without preparation and without awareness of the challenge they present, could lead to spiritual error if not approached with caution and discernment.

So, the answer is nuanced. If you are using the practice as a spiritual practice, you should proceed with the utmost caution. If, on the other hand, you are using these practices for the more common physical or psychological—not spiritual—reasons, then it is permissible. ●

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org**



VLADA KARPOVICH / PEXELS

## Monday

April 27

*Easter Weekday*

Acts 11:1–18

Jn 10:11–18

## Tuesday

April 28

*Easter Weekday*

Acts 11:19–26

Jn 10:22–30

## Wednesday

April 29

*St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church*

Acts 12:24–13:5a

Jn 12:44–50

## Thursday

April 30

*Easter Weekday*

Acts 13:13–25

Jn 13:16–20

## Friday

May 1

*Easter Weekday*

Acts 13:26–33

Jn 14:1–6

## Saturday

May 2

*St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

Acts 13:44–52

Jn 14:7–14

## Sunday

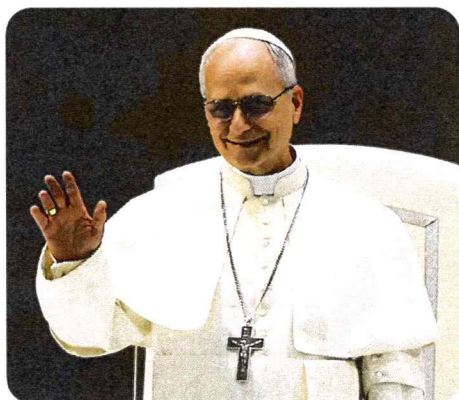
May 3

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 6:1–7

1 Pt 2:4–9

Jn 14:1–12



MARCO JACOBUCCI EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

***Our faith is authentic when it embraces our whole life, when it becomes a criterion for our decisions, when it makes us women and men committed to doing what is right and who take risks out of love, even as Jesus did.... Jesus is the true measure of our faith; he is the gate through which we must pass in order to be saved.***

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 24, 2025