

April 9, 2023

A Note from Fr. José Arroyo

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Happy Easter to all! After walking our Lenten journey together, we have finally arrived at Easter which, similar to Christmas, is a season and not just a day. Easter consists of 50 days. The first week is called the Octave of Easter beginning with Easter Sunday and finishing on Divine Mercy Sunday. During the Easter season, the first readings at Sunday Mass will shift from the Old Testament to the New Testament, specifically from the Acts of the Apostles, which depict the beginning of the early Christian communities of our Catholic Church.

Our parish has been very blessed to have a dedicated RCIA team which has accompanied five men and women as they receive all of the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist). Two of them were conditionally baptized in private on Holy Saturday morning. All were responsible of approaching the sacrament of reconciliation. At the Easter Vigil, four will make their Profession of Faith as Catholics and receive the sacrament of confirmation. One learned that they were actually baptized a Roman Catholic as a child and I needed delegation by Bishop Rhoades to confirm this person. A fifth one, who has been a Catholic will be confirmed by Bishop when the Bishop comes on Tuesday, April 25 th .

We are very much alive and we are excited to see how God continues to work in these brothers and sisters of ours, in the midst of our Catholic Church, especially at St. Paul of the Cross parish. May the risen Lord inspire them to be faithful all the days of their lives. Hopefully, we can welcome them and see how they flourish in our parish community. Those of us who have served in various parish groups throughout the years should be very pleased to "pass the baton" of our knowledge and in our labor in all things related to the service of the Kingdom of God. The parish staff and the parish council are very pleased to see the coming together of the English speaking community and the Spanish-speaking community of our parish at the bilingual Stations of the Cross. An interesting detail that was recently brought to my attention is that some of our new Spanish-speaking parishioners do not have Spanish as their first language. They are actually from an indigenous tribe in Guatemala called Quiché. When I learned that they would only speak this dialect to

their parents, it dawned on me that the church is more universal than I had imagined. Similarly, there are Spanish-speaking parishioners who attend English Masses and vice versa, which demonstrates a great maturity in a small amount of time within our parish in Columbia City. Let us be grateful, for I was told that we are becoming a model for the rest of the Diocese regarding what a bilingual parish should be.

Collections for April 2, 2023

<u>Adult Offering Envelopes</u>	\$ 2,311.00
Loose	\$ 520.60
Candles	\$ 38.00
Repair Fund	\$ 380.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 65.00
Home Missions	\$ 40.00
Catholic Relief	\$ 5.00
CCD Rel. Educ	\$ 103.00
Total in pew	<u>\$ 3,462.60</u>
<u>Online Collections</u>	
Reg. Envelopes	\$ 1,335.00
Repair Fund	\$ 280.00
Second Collection	\$ 105.00
Other	\$ 15.00
Total Online:	<u>\$1,735.00</u>

EASTER SUNDAY

Mass Intentions

April 8th & 9th Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday

- 9:00 p.m. † Andy Lowe
- 8:00 a.m. † Gary Dawson
- 10:30 a.m. † Edith Miller
- 2:00 p.m. Parroquiano

(Eucharistic Adoration one hour before each Mass)
(Holy Rosary 30 minutes before each Mass)

April 10th Easter Monday

- 8:00 a.m. Tristan Decosto along with living & deceased members of their family

April 11th Easter Tuesday

- 8:00 a.m. † James & Lori Ray
- 11:00 a.m. Funeral for Carol Terman

April 12th Easter Wednesday

- 5:00 p.m. † Leona Kevern

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April 13th Easter Thursday
8:00 a.m. † Joe Schmitt

April 14th Easter Friday
8:00 a.m. † Jo Hinen
(Eucharistic Adoration: 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
every Friday)

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Religious Education Announcements

Religious Education Classes

There will not be any religious education classes this weekend in observance of Easter. We wish everyone a most blessed and happy Easter Sunday.

8th Grade Students

All Saint essays are due by April 16th.

Confirmation practice will be held here at St. Paul of the Cross in the church beginning at 5 p.m. All Candidates, their sponsors, and at least one parent is expected to attend this very important practice.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place here at St. Paul of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. A reception in the Community Center will follow the Holy Mass with the ability to have your picture taken with the Bishop.

REVIVE

As part of the Eucharistic Revival, there will be a Revive city-wide mission night on Wednesday, April 12th at Bishop Dwenger High School, led by Damascus Missionaries. It will be a night with praise and worship, an inspirational speaker, and Eucharistic Adoration. Renew your own faith and invite a friend to come with you to encounter our God who is living and active. We are all called to evangelize and this is an easy way to do it. Please give an invitation card to someone you know. For more information and to register, go to diocesefwsb.org/eucharist or email info.revival@diocesefwsb.org.

SAVE THE DATE

Signs from God, miracles and their meaning will be the focus of a speaker event on May 1st and 2nd.

Visiting presenter Tim Francis will talk about his quest for truth, going "from altar boy to party boy. From non-denominational mega church back to the Roman Catholic Church" in May while also discussing modern-day miracles.

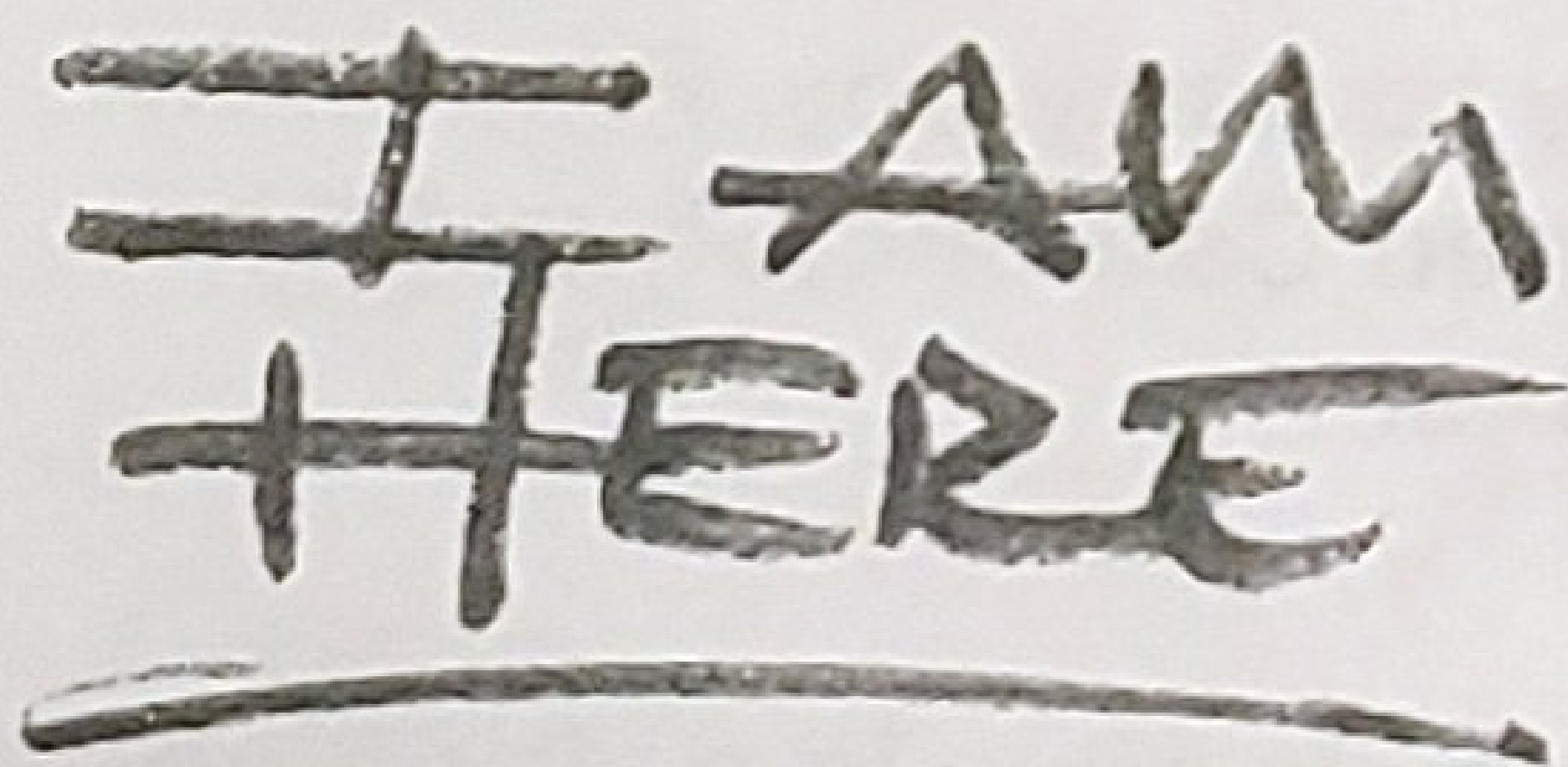
"There's a message behind every miracle," Francis says in a video about the presentation.

Tim is a nationally known lay evangelist who travels the country to help Catholics gain a deeper understanding of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, according to a press release from presentation organizers.

He will give the same presentation twice: once on Monday, May 1st and again on Tuesday, May 2nd. Mark your calendars and start inviting friends and family to attend with you.



We will have a training for Altar Servers on Sunday, April 23rd, following the 10:30 AM Mass. We are very much in need of more Altar Servers, especially for the 5:00 PM Mass. Please prayerfully consider serving the church in this way and encouraging your children to do the same. Anyone 3rd grade and above can participate in the Altar Server training. This training is for all current AND new altar servers.



Jesus in the Eucharist reminds us that we are never alone, that he is with us. In our brokenness, sorrows, and frustrations, he is with us. He never leaves us. Jesus wants to walk with us in our journey toward eternal life.

We hope the stories of men and women who have found in the Eucharist the strength and purpose for their lives inspires you to experience it for yourself. Visit your parish or find a chapel and sit in the presence of Jesus, opening yourself up to his voice. We hope you come to believe without a doubt that Jesus died for you, loves you, and extends his mercy to you.

He is truly present here.

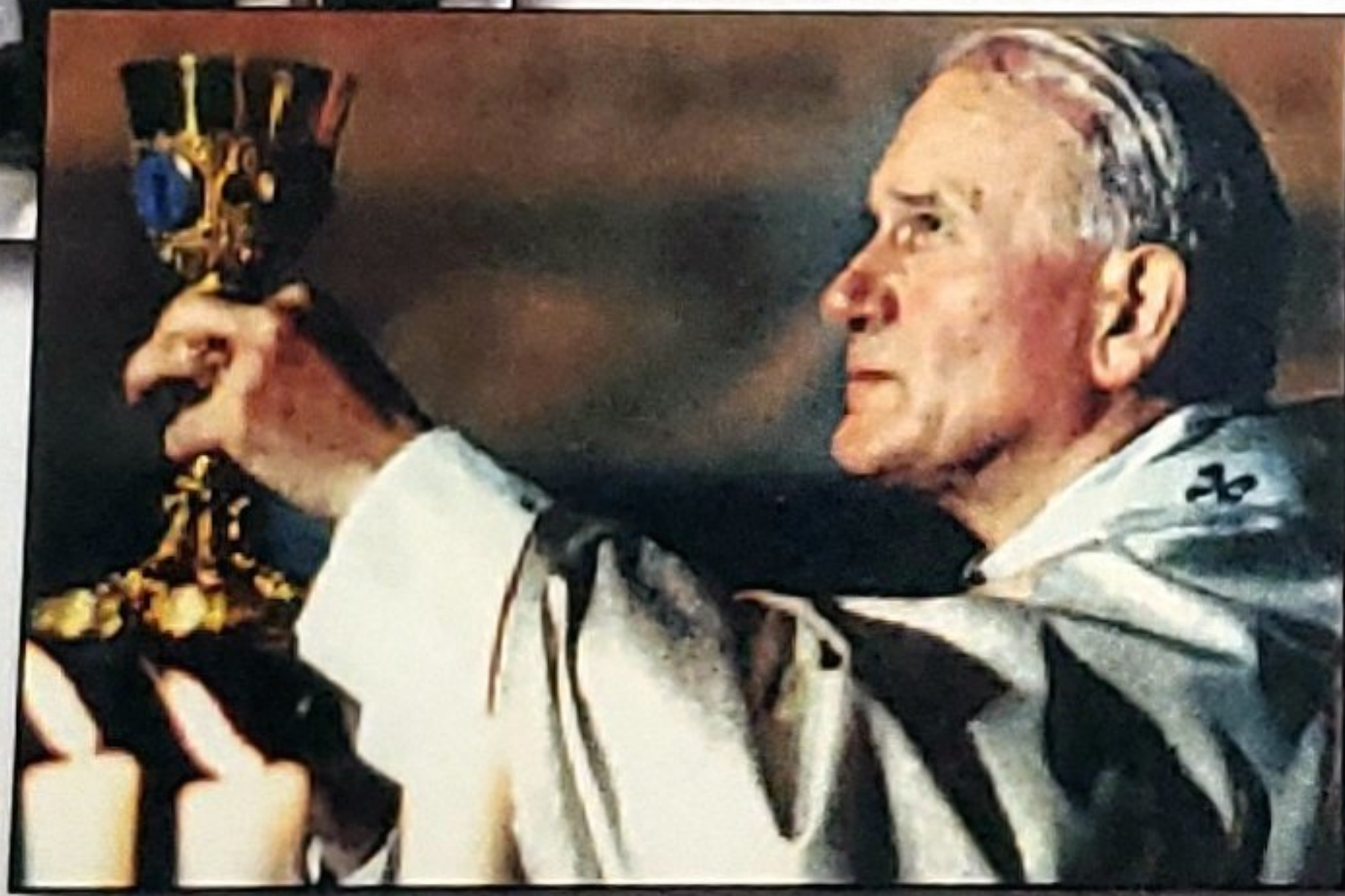
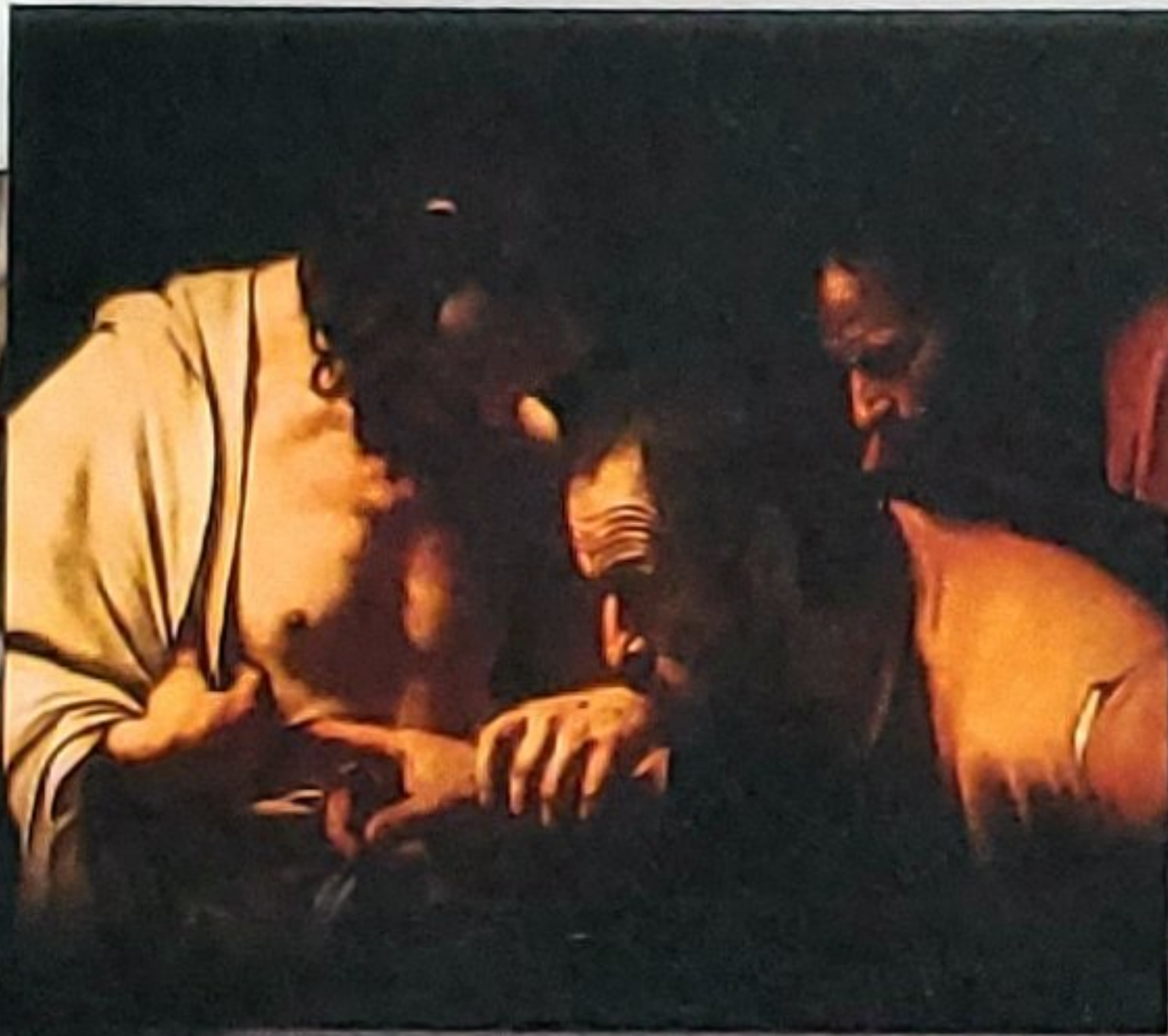
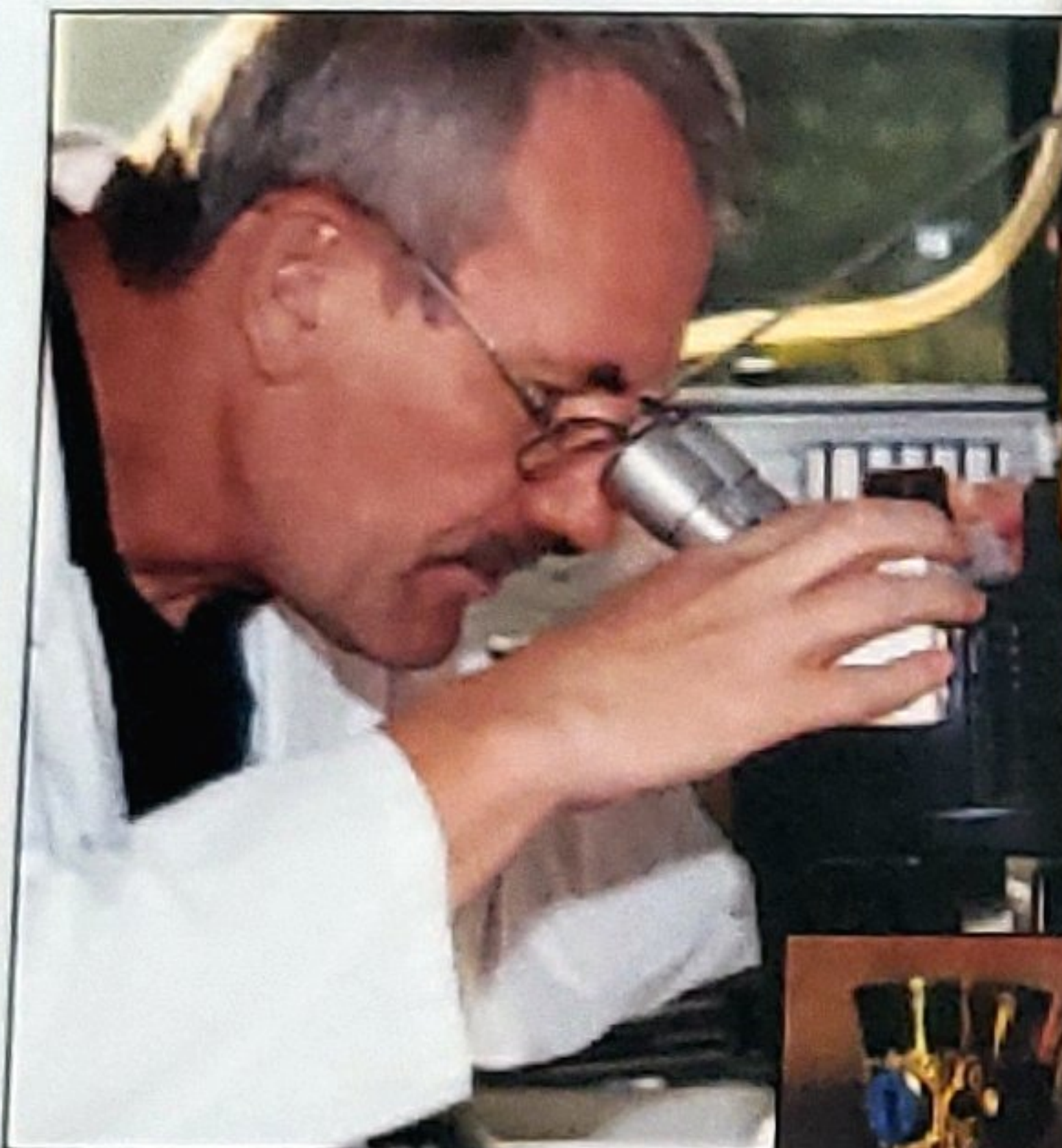
I AM HERE is a campaign of the Archdiocese of Detroit and Hallow App in support of the National Eucharistic Revival.

<https://www.iamhere.org>

DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE SUPERNATURAL?

~ SEEING IS BELIEVING ~

MAY 1 & 2
SCIENCE TESTS FAITH



Can miracles stand up to the test of science?

- Exclusive film footage of a stigmatist who bleeds from her hands, feet, and head. Are these the wounds of Christ? *What does science have to say?*
- A consecrated Communion Host becomes living flesh and blood. Is it heart tissue? *What does science have to say?*
- A scientist (former atheist), an attorney and a famous TV Journalist witness statue of Jesus weeping real tears and shedding real blood. Are these claims true? *What does science have to say?*

Saint Paul of the Cross is hosting an **EVENT** for everyone in the area.
If you have an "I will believe it when I see it" attitude, don't miss this event!

"Put it this way-this is either the biggest hoax of the 20th Century, in which case it would have to be a fairly huge conspiracy, or the most important moment of the century, if not the whole millennium."

*Alastair Thompson
New Zealand journalist*

Monday May 1st

Saint Paul of the Cross
315 S. Line St.

Columbia City, IN 46725

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

For detailed itinerary go to

www.ScienceTestsFaith.com/StPaul

Tuesday May 2nd

Saint Paul of the Cross
315 S. Line St.

Columbia City, IN 46725

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

For detailed itinerary go to

www.ScienceTestsFaith.com/StPaul

****Same presentation each night choose one****