

Have you drifted away from the Catholic Church? Please take a moment to read this letter from Father Frank...

Dear Friend in Christ,

I realize this letter is an odd way to communicate with you, so let me tell you to whom it's directed. I'm writing *especially* to you if, for one reason or another, you've been away from the Catholic Church for a while, or may have chosen to leave it altogether.

I'm writing simply to ask you to consider coming back home. Our lives can become so complicated, and sometimes without ever intending to, we become disconnected from family and friends who love and miss us. Sometimes events or choices we've made in our lives convince us that we no longer really belong and wouldn't be welcome in the Catholic family. *Nothing could be further from the truth!*

Our Heavenly Father knows you perfectly, and loves you with a love that is infinite and absolutely unconditional. From all eternity He has looked forward to *you*, and longed for your friendship. Because He knows *all* of us get trapped in the darkness of sin, He allowed His own Son, Jesus Christ, to come to our rescue. Jesus loved and continues to love you and me so much that He was willing to die rather than see us separated from Him forever.

You belong to Jesus, and you belong with us—and we want you to come home.

But He rose again! He is alive right now, and in a unique way continues to walk among His people giving joy, meaning, and purpose to our lives. He speaks to us through His Word, and faithful to what He promised His friends in John, Chapter 6, He feeds and strengthens us with His own Body and Blood in His sacrament of love, the Eucharist. You belong to Him, and you belong with us—and we want you to come home.

Maybe you've felt judged or condemned in the past by the Church, or one of her clergy or lay representatives. If so, I sincerely ask forgiveness for the pain and alienation you have experienced. Perhaps you were only baptized as a baby, and for your entire life you've never really been a part of a practicing Catholic family, feeling you are only Catholic "by default." It may be that you've divorced and then remarried "outside the Church." None of these things are insurmountable, and if you want to, you can *always* come back. Always!

continued on back...

Even those who have the happiest of lives also have troubles. We need answers from outside ourselves that can help us find and tap into the “abundant life” our loving Father desires for all His children. We really can’t go it alone—but we don’t have to. For two thousand years both saints and sinners have found strength, forgiveness, and hope in the Gospel of Jesus Christ as it is taught and lived in this family called the Catholic Church. Today—and every day—at thousands of altars all around the world we are praying for you and your needs in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Perhaps you’ve hoped someone would invite you to come back. This is your invitation. Maybe you’ve even prayed for a sign as to whether you should return to the Catholic Church. *This letter is your sign.*

If you’ve prayed for a sign...this letter is your sign!

If you feel the need or desire to talk to a priest before making up your mind, the only thing you need to do is call the parish office at **(225) 775-8850** and tell the receptionist you’d like an appointment to talk about coming home. Nothing could give me greater joy! You are our family—you belong among us, and we miss you. We want you to come home.

I pray for you every blessing in Christ, and joy and peace in the Holy Spirit!

[Visit CatholicsComeHome.org](http://VisitCatholicsComeHome.org)

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Frank Bass ✠

Fr. Frank Bass

Pastor

St. Isidore the Farmer Catholic Church
5657 Thomas Road (at Thomas & Plank)

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm
Sunday 7:30 am & 10:30 am

Tuesday Night Worship & Prayer

6:00 pm Mass, followed by
Chaplet of Divine Mercy and
Eucharistic Benediction

Confession

Saturday 3-3:45 pm at St. Pius X (Central)
Tuesday 5-5:45 pm at St. Isidore (Baker)

www.stisidorecommunity.org

Visit our website for more information
and to view Sunday homilies