

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Weekend of November 26 & 27, 2022

Established 1917



Photo: Chase Sekul



PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

HOPE

Monsignor Dominick Fullam, Pastor

Robert Wescovich Jr., Deacon

William Shaidnagle, Deacon

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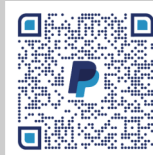
App Store: MyParish (select St Michael)

Facebook: facebook.com/Stmichaelbiloxi

Mass Schedule:
Weekdays
Tues-Fri 8am

Weekends
Saturday 5pm
Sunday 10am

Use your cell
phone camera to
link to St. Mi-
chael for online
donations



Confessions:

Saturday 4-4:30 pm or by Appointment

Office hours: Tues-Thurs
8:30am-3pm

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading

Matthew 24:37-44

Jesus tells his disciples that the coming of the Son of Man will catch many people unprepared. Jesus tells his disciples that they are to always be ready for the day of the Lord.

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Matthew will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle A). In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus speak about the need for wakefulness, for watchful waiting, for the coming of the Son of Man.

Matthew's Gospel is dated by most scholars after 70 A.D. Most believe that Matthew wrote for a primarily Jewish community, but one that was no longer centered on the Temple in Jerusalem. These were Jewish Christians trying to come to terms with their relationship to Judaism in a new situation: Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. There may have been Christians who believed that the events of the world around them gave evidence of the imminent return of the Lord in glory.

The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming in glory be.

The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know *that* our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared.

See: <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/>

Ministry News

St. Michael Saint Vincent de Paul Thrift Store OS

Saturday, December 3rd -10:00am til 2:00 pm Sidewalk Book Sale; 12:30pm til 3:00pm Come take pictures with Santa Claus!! Monday, December 12th - 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm Author Albert Allegue Book Signing. Cookies and coffee will be available.

St. Michael Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is asking that you bring back your baby bottle so this drive can be tallied and money given to Morning Star Pregnancy Center. Thank you everyone who participated!

Religious Education

Life Teen and Edge groups, consisting of youth in grades 6-12 from Blessed Seelos, Nativity, Our Mother of Sorrows, and St. Michael parishes, meet in the Sacred Heart Center. Upcoming youth events:

Christmas Program Sign-ups Happening Now!

Children (ages 3-12) are welcome to be a part of our children's choir and a part of the retelling of the Nativity story, and teens (ages 13-19) are welcome to be a part of our teen choir and be a part of this beautiful retelling of the birth of Jesus. **Our first practice will be on Monday, November 28th** from 5:30-6:30. A full list of practice days, times and performances can be found in the vestibule and below, along with a signup sheet. All practices will be held at Blessed Seelos in the church. If you have any questions, please contact Cherie Prentiss at 228 365-4017 or cmprentiss@att.net

Practice Schedule

Monday, November 28th 5:30-6:30 kids and teens

Thursday, December 1st 5:30-6:30 kids and teens

Monday, December 5th 5:30-7:00 kids and teens

Wednesday, December 7th 5:30-6:30 kids and teens

Sunday, December 11th 11:30-1:30 (Lunch will be provided at 12:15)

Monday, December 12th 5:30- 7:00 kids and teens

Thursday, December 15th 6:00 Dress Rehearsal / 5:30 Call/
*** Mandatory

Monday, December 19th 6:00 Christmas Program Performance/5:30 Call/ Saint Michael & Tuesday, December 20th 6:00 Christmas Program Performance/5:30 Call/ Seelos

Please keep our youth and adult CORE team in your prayers. Are you a youth that would like to join our Life Teen/ Edge group? Are you an adult that would like to provide a meal, a dessert, or join our adult CORE team? Contact Kristy Arguelles: 228-324-9934, eastbiloxiayouthministry@gmail.com

Collections November 19 & 20, 2022
\$3927.00

Mass for the Intentions Week

Sat, Nov 26 +Nicolas & Loyce Hire

Sun, Nov 27 For the People

Tues, Nov 29 +Carl Kuluz

Thurs, Dec 1 +Jeanne Marie Baker

UPCOMING
Events

In Our Parish

November 26-27: Limited Edition Christmas Ornaments on sale \$20 each. (details on back)

November 29: #igivecatholic

December 7: Vigil Mass 6pm Immaculate Conception

December 8: Mass 8am Immaculate Conception

December 19: Christmas Program, The Nativity Story 6pm

December 24: Christmas Eve Masses 4pm & 6pm

December 25: Christmas Day Mass 10am

Sundays: 4pm LifeTeen

Mondays: 7pm Men's Prayer Group

Tuesdays: 7pm RCIA

Wednesdays: 10-11am SVPD Food Pantry

Wednesdays: 5:30 CCD

In Our Diocese

December 8-11-Women's Cursillo #291 at the Sacred Heart Dedeaux Retreat Center in Pass Christian. Applications are currently being accepted. Applications can be found online at www.biloxicursillo.org. For questions and/or more information, contact Gay Camagong at (228)424-7722 or Marcia Hebert at (413)433-3903.

January 26-The Role of Beauty in the Spiritual Life 7pm Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church, Free and all welcome

January 27-28-Sacred Music Workshop \$40 Registration required by January 13 Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church Email workshop@classicalartsfoundation for more information.

May 3-14, 2023- Holy Land Trip, Fr. Joe Dilettuso is very excited to announce this tour to Israel. It will be a 12 day customized pilgrimage to the Holy Land, the cost is approximately \$5699 per person (double occupancy.) Contact Heidi Clark 228 388-4429 heiditravel66@gmail.com

Altar Flowers
are in Memory of
The loved ones of St. Michael

Next Week's Second Collection is for
Saint Vincent de Paul Pharmacy

Lay Leanings

By Deacon Mike Stewart

On a cold, blustery day back home, I was swept up in the blue skies, warm temperatures, and stunning mountain views of my morning run in southern California. As is often the case though, God snapped me back into reality. Suddenly, a passage from Matthew's Gospel (16:28) came to mind - *What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?* Random as it appeared to be, that verse seemed a stark reminder that the beauty all around me in that moment was purely temporal, and perhaps just a tiny peek at what awaits us in eternal life.

As I ran along, God wasn't done with me yet. With that Gospel passage still rolling around in my head, I noticed something shiny on the path ahead. I bent down to pick up what appeared to be a brand new quarter. As if this place wasn't beautiful enough, right? *What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?*

Do you leave room for God to surprise you? Or are you so swept up in chasing your dreams, or perhaps just keeping up with life that you miss the surprises that God leaves on the path right in front of you? I honestly believe that missing God's surprises is a much bigger problem for us than it was perhaps for our grandparents, many of whom were not nearly as distracted by life we are in our modern culture. It's not as if somehow God is too busy to surprise us these days; on the contrary, it's the other way around.

So why do some recognize how God works in their lives, and yet, for others, God seems absent? I've had that question directed at me many times, and the answer comes down to two things, at least in my own life. First, we have to be open to allowing God to surprise us in the first place. If we somehow limit how God works in us or in human nature in general, then the avenue to God's surprises is closed. Secondly, as my mother seemed to perpetually echo to my brothers and I, we have to be paying attention. I could easily have brushed aside that Gospel verse, and yet it kept coming back. I could easily have been looking up, and then missed sight of that quarter; but I wasn't. I could easily have run right passed that quarter, but I didn't. I could easily have ignored how God seemed to be leading me to pass this awareness onto those who are reading this right now ... but I didn't.

Most of us don't like surprises because they take the control away from us. Maybe that's why God keeps throwing them in our path. Pay attention!

If you want to know the end, look at the beginning.
~African proverb © 2022 Mike Stewart Email: layleanings@gmail.com Used with permission

Always in our hearts-

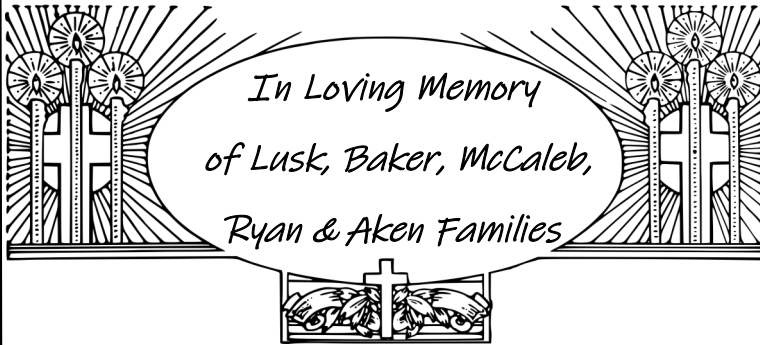
Stanley "Rook" Kopszywa Sr, Lola Broussard Derouen, Victoria "Tori" Felsher, Rogers "Poochie" Broussard, Aldo & Anna Caprari, Evorise Boudreaux Broussard & Cyrus A. Broussard

Dear Lord God, awaken us, that we may be ready when your dear Son comes, that we may receive him with joy and serve you with pure hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



November 2022

YOU MAY PURCHASE A FAMILY AD BY CALLING THE OFFICE BY NOON ON THE WEDNESDAY PRIOR TO PUBLICATION. CALL THE OFFICE FOR MORE INFO.



An everlasting love
Happy 40th Birthday in Heaven
Victoria "Tori" Felsher
Nov 14, 1982–Sept 24, 2005
Forever in our hearts!

In Memory of Kathy Theriot

11/27/45-12/28/20

*We love you a bushel and a peck
and a hug around the neck.*



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In remembrance of
Carl Joseph Kuluz
Jun 1, 1962–Nov 27, 2018
Always in our hearts



*In loving memory of
Nicolas "Corky" Híre
Oct 2, 1921–Mar 9, 2021
And Loyce Híre
Feb 10, 1933–Oct 7, 2022
Together in Heaven*

Limited Edition St. Michael 2022
Christmas Ornaments

On sale now!

St. Michael Fundraising Team is selling this year's limited edition Christmas ornaments, after all Masses, until they are gone. The cost is \$20.00 per ornament. Get them while they last!

We also have a limited supply of the 2018 Christmas ornament for \$10.00 each.



*Happy Birthday!
Cynthia and Diana
Love you bunches
-Susan*

Cease asking what God will give you if you come to him, and begin to ask what you will give God. It is not the sacrifice it sounds, for, in having Him, you will have everything besides.

-Fulton J. Sheen