

MASS INTENTIONS
Sat, Jan 31.....+Gerald & +Janis Fountain
Sun, Feb 1.....For the people
Tue, Feb 3.....+Thomas Skrmetti, Sr.
Wed, Feb 4.....Special Intention
Thu, Feb 5Special Intention
Fri, Feb 6.....Norah Lynne Gollott

IN OUR PARISH
OCIA FEB 3, 7pm: The topic this week is “God <i>washes</i> : Baptism; God anoints; Confirmation.
THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION is Mar 7, at 5pm here at St. Michael’s along with Candidates from Nativity, Our Mother of Sorrows, and Blessed Seelos Parishes. Please remember these candidates in your prayers.
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: St. Michael's will have a First Holy Communion group again this year! This opportunity is open to all children associated with the parish. For more information and/or to register your child, please take a Childhood Sacrament Registration form from the table in the vestibule and return it to the parish office by Mar 18. Questions may be directed to Ashley Rodriguez, 410.693.8825 or rodfamily2015@gmail.com
PRIZE BINGO MAR 22: Mark your calendars for the Spring Prize Bingo and look forward to more information to come.
IN OUR DIOCESE
NEWWINE PROGRAM: If you—or someone you serve with—feel called to deepen your formation and grow in leadership, we encourage you to grab an application in the back and apply. Applications for the August 2026 Cohort are due Friday, March 6, 2026.
COUPLES NIGHT: Sat, Feb 7 at 6pm hosted by Our Lady of the Gulf, “Wired by God: Understanding your temperament to build a joyful, connected family”. Dinner, talk, childcare. Space is limited; please visit olgchurchevents.com for more info.
JOB OPENING: Catholic Charities of South Mississippi is seeking a compassionate and dedicated Mental Health Therapist to join our team. For full job posting visit https://catholiccharitiesofsouthms.org/counseling-program

PREVIOUS WEEK’S COLLECTION BASKETS
Jan 24 & 25.....\$5478.00
UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTIONS
Jan 31 & Feb 1.....Building Fund

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Mon Feb 2 Mal 3:1-4, Heb 2:14-28, Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Tue Feb 3 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a,30—19:3, Mk 5:21-43
Wed Feb 4 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17, Mk 6:1-6
Thu Feb 5 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-123, 1 Chr 29:10-12, Mk 6:7-13, 1 Cor 1:26-31, Lk 9:23-26
Fri Feb 6 Sir 47:2-11, Mk 6:14-29, Gal 2:19-20, Mt 28:16-20

MINISTRIES: God is calling YOU. Can you answer the call? We are in need of Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers, Greeters! Prayerfully consider God’s calling to serve your St. Michael Family. Call 228.435.5578 or email stmichaelccbiloxi@gmail.com

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY The SVDP provides a food pantry each Wednesday from 10—11 am. We value your time and your donations! Your continued support helps to ensure SVdP is able to provide support for those in need. There is a basket in the vestibule for non perishable donations.


CARD MINISTRY Sends out inspirational cards monthly to homebound parishioners and friends. Stamps are always needed. Drop off in the church office or contact Cynthia Powell.

STELLA MARIS EXPLORERS homeschool ministry serving catholic children grades PK3-12th with a Thursday morning program in the FLC. If you're interested in dropping in for a club meeting or to get more information, please visit our website (StellaMarisExplorers.com).

OCIA The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is an invitation for adults to explore their interests, or to enhance their knowledge in the Roman Catholic Church. The O.C.I.A. lays out a process in which men and women are guided and cared for as they awaken in faith and are gradually introduced to the Catholic way of life. Please remember to keep our Inquirers, Sponsors, and Team in your prayers as they continue their faith journey of spiritual growth and integration into our Parish community. The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is an invitation for adults to explore their interests, or to enhance their knowledge, in the Roman Catholic Church. The O.C.I.A. lays out a process in which men and women are guided and cared for as they awaken in faith and are gradually introduced to the Catholic way of life. For more information, contact Deacon Wescovich at 228-860-1575.

2026 Lent/Easter Season
-Feb 18, Ash Wed—Mass at 8 am and 12 noon
-Stations of the Cross— Friday’s at 6 pm: Feb 20, 27, Mar 6, 13, 20, 27
-Mar 24, Lenten Penance/Adoration— at 6 pm
-Apr 2, Holy Thu— Mass at 6 pm
-Apr 3, Good Fri—Stations at 12 noon and Liturgy at 3 pm
-Apr 4, Holy Sat—Begin at the fire pit at 7:30 pm followed by Easter Vigil Mass at 8 pm in the church
-Apr 5, Easter Sunday—Easter Sunday Mass at 10 am

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A
First Reading Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13 There will be a people who remain sheltered from God’s anger.
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 146:6-10 The Lord is faithful forever.
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 God chooses the weak to show his power.
Gospel Reading Matthew 5:1-12a Jesus teaches what it means to be happy.
Background on the Gospel Reading Today’s reading is the beginning of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, which is found in Matthew’s Gospel. The form of the Beatitudes found here is not unique to Jesus. Beatitudes are found in the Old Testament, in the psalms, and in wisdom literature, for example. They are a way to teach about who will find favor with God.
 We quickly note in this reading that the people whom Jesus calls “blessed” and “happy” are not people we think of as blessed or happy . . . the poor in spirit, the meek, the persecuted. This Gospel is one of reversals. Jesus’ blueprint for happiness reflects little of what the world might call happiness.
 “Blessed” is sometimes translated as happy, fortunate, or favored. In other words, Jesus is saying that divine favor is upon those who are poor, those who mourn, those who are persecuted. This news might have been welcome—and surprising—to the crowds who heard Jesus that day.
 The Beatitudes can be understood as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. By referring to the good things that the faithful will experience, Matthew reminds us that those who act in the manner described in the Beatitudes will find their reward with God..
<div>Sunday Connection Loyola Press</div>



Lord, help us to follow the path You have set before us. Teach us to trust in You, seek justice, and live humbly. Give us the strength to show mercy and work for peace. May we always remember that true happiness comes from walking in Your ways. Amen.

Blessings for the Humble and Faithful
Seeking humility and justice: Zephaniah calls people to be humble and do what is right. God cares for those who trust Him and live simply.
God lifts up the lowly: Paul reminds the Corinthians that God often chooses those who seem weak or unimportant. This shows that human strength and status do not matter to God.
Trusting in God’s wisdom: Paul says that God’s ways are different from human ways. Real wisdom comes from following Christ, not from human success.
Blessings for the poor in spirit: In the Gospel, Jesus says that those who know they need God are blessed. They will receive the kingdom of heaven.
Peace and mercy matter: Jesus blesses those who are peacemakers and show mercy. God’s children act with kindness and work for peace.
Suffering for doing right: Jesus teaches that those who face trouble for following Him will be rewarded. God sees their struggles and will bless them.