

MASS INTENTIONS	
Sat, Jul 11.....	For the people
Sun, Jul 12.....	+Dylan Higginbotham
Tue, Jul 14.....	+Ursula Skrmetti
Wed, Jul 15.....	+Katie Lynn Pizzetta
Thu, Jul 16.....	+Thomas Skrmetti
Fri, Jul 17.....	Kozlowski Family

IN OUR PARISH	
SPECIAL MASS: A special daily Mass will be held on Saturday July 18, at 8:30am. Fr. Clinton Sensat, a keynote speaker for the Moms' Retreat that day, will be the celebrant. All are welcome for morning mass.	
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 16992: See a member for a chance to win 2 Shimano Rod and Reel Combos. Tickets are \$10 each or a book of \$11 for \$100. Proceeds support St. Michael’s SVDP. The drawing will be held, Sun, August 30.	
IN OUR DIOCESE	
The Annual Mass of Wedding Anniversaries will take place on Sunday, October 4, 2026 at 2 p.m. at the Nativity B.V.M. Cathedral. Couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, or 60 years (or any anniversary above 60) of marriage are welcome to attend. Our online registration form is available below to fill out. You can also download and print the paper version to turn in, located under parish toolkit. The deadline for registration is September 10, 2026. You can return the form by mail to my attention at the above address or e-mail it to me at jmitchell@biloxidiocese.org.	
St. Alphonsus Parish Feast Day Celebration Mark your calendars for St. Alphonsus Day on Saturday, August 1st! We’ll begin with 8:15 a.m. Mass, followed by confession and adoration, then enjoy fellowship with mahjong and community time. After the 4:00 p.m. Mass, join us for a spaghetti dinner, trivia night, and more fun for all ages. Dinner tickets are \$5 per person or \$15 per family. You can also support St. Alphonsus Elementary School scholarships by entering our ‘Raise the Steaks’ raffle—\$20 per ticket or 6 for \$100—for a chance to win a half-cow's worth of premium local beef and select cuts from Stonnington Farms. For details, contact the Parish Office (228-875-5419) or John McMackin (228-229-6236).	

THE FLOWER INTENTIONS ARE IN LOVING MEMORY OF BELOVED ST. MICHAEL PARISHIONERS	
UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTIONS	
Jul 4 & 5	\$5488.00
Jul 11 & 12.....	St. Michael Parish

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Mon Jul 13	Is 1:10-17, Mt 10:34—11:1
Tue Jul 14	Is 7:1-9, Mt 11:20-24
Wed Jul 15	Is 10:5-7, 13b-6, Mt 11:25-27, Eph 3:14-19, Mt
Thu Jul 16	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19, Mt 11:28-30
Fri Jul 17	Is 38:1-6, 21-22. 7-8, Mt 12:1-9

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 would like to thank the VBS Children who made generous donations to our Food Pantry throughout the week! :)
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. For more information, contact Deacon Wescovich at 228-860-1575.

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, A July 12, 2026
First Reading Isaiah 55:10-11 The Word of the Lord shall achieve its purpose.
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 65:10-14 A prayer of praise to God for his abundance.
Second Reading Romans 8:18-23 Together with all of creation, we await God’s redemption.
Gospel Reading <i>Matthew 13:1-23 (shorter form: Matthew 13:1-9)</i> <i>Jesus teaches that the kingdom of heaven is like seed that has been sown on good soil.</i>
Background on the Gospel Reading
Today’s Gospel marks the beginning of the third long discourse given by Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. Over the next few weeks, the Gospel readings will consist of the entire 13th Chapter of Matthew’s Gospel, a lengthy teaching discourse. Throughout this discourse, Jesus will offer several parables to illustrate for his listeners what he means by the kingdom of heaven. He begins with the parable of the sower, which appears rather straightforward—of course seeds grow best in good soil. Seeds that miss the soil, are sown on rocky ground, or are sown among other plants will not grow. The surprise in the parable is the enormous yield of the seed that is sown on good soil. Jesus then explains his use of parables. Jesus seems to suggest that he uses parables to teach because the meanings of parables are not self-evident. The hearer must engage in some degree of reflection in order to comprehend the message of a parable. In this way, the medium—the parable—models the point of the parable of the sower. Those who are willing to engage themselves in the effort to understand will be rewarded by the discovery of the message and will bear fruit. To bring home the point, Jesus interprets the parable of the sower to his disciples. The different types of soil in which the seeds are sown are metaphors for the disposition with which each individual hears the teaching about the kingdom of heaven. Some will be easily swayed away from the kingdom of heaven. Some will receive it for a time but will lose it when faced with difficulties. Some will hear the word but will then permit other cares to choke it out. Yet some will receive it well, and the seed will produce abundant fruit. Loyola Press Sunday Connection



Preparing our Hearts for God’s Word The Gospel for the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A tells the parable of the sower. Jesus describes different kinds of soil, showing how people respond to God’s message. Some are open and ready, while others are distracted or unprepared. This parable helps us reflect on the state of our own hearts. Some people hear God’s word but do not understand it. Like seeds on a path, the message is quickly lost. Others accept it but give up when difficulties arise. They have no strong roots. Some start with good intentions, but worries and desires choke their faith, like thorns growing among the plants. The best soil is rich and ready. It allows the seed to take root and grow. This represents those who listen to God’s word, take it seriously, and live by it. Their faith grows, and they produce good fruits of love, kindness, and truth. The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A reminds us to prepare our hearts for God’s word. Are we listening? Are we allowing faith to grow? When we make space for God, His word will take root and bear fruit in our lives. God speaks to each person in different ways, but the message is always meant to bring life and hope. The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A reminds us to listen, trust, and prepare our hearts. When we allow God’s word to take root, it will grow and bear fruit in our lives. -Young Catholic
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Lord, open my heart to Your word. Help me to listen, understand, and follow Your truth. Remove anything that keeps me from growing in faith. Give me the strength to endure struggles and the patience to trust in Your plan. May my life bear good fruit that brings glory to You. Amen.