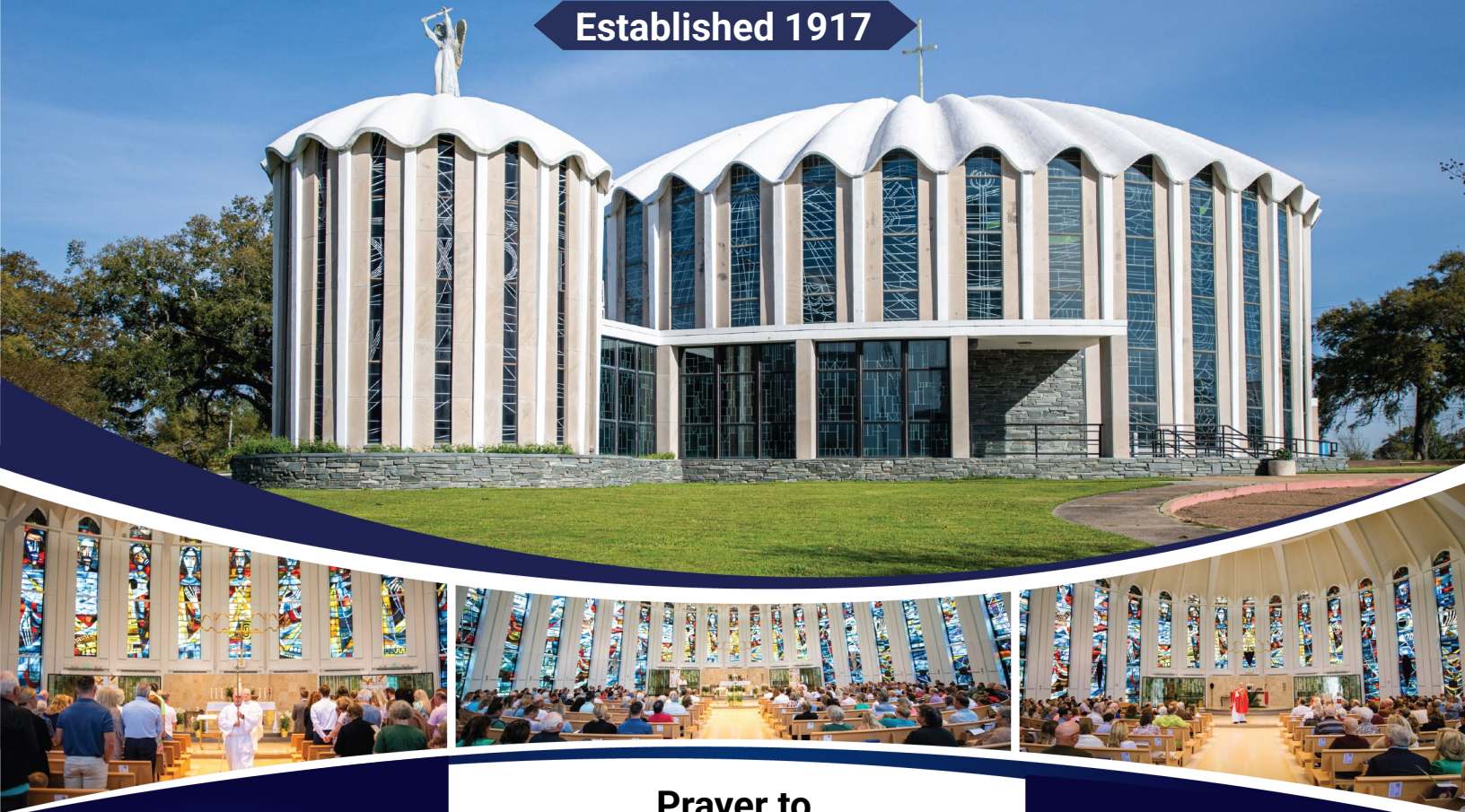


# St. Michael Catholic Church

Weekend of September 14 & 15, 2024

Established 1917



## Confessions

Saturday 4 - 4:30 pm  
or by appointment

## Office Hours

Tuesday—Thursday  
8:30 - 3 pm  
or as posted

## Prayer to

### St. 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.

## Mass Schedule

Weekends  
Saturday 5 pm  
Sunday 10 am

Weekdays  
Tuesday - Friday 8 am



venmo



**Monsignor Dominick Fullam, Pastor**

**Robert Wescovich Jr., Deacon | Jessica Gollott, Administrative Assistant**

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🔗 MyParish (select St. Michael)

📘 facebook.com/Stmichaelbiloxi

📷 Instagram.com/stmichaelbiloxims

## Lay Leanings by Deacon Mike Stewart

The winds of the prior day were strong, but by no means significant enough to bring down a branch of this size. It was large enough to wrap a grown man's belt around. Curious, I examined it closer, and then it was clear why that large branch could not sustain its own weight against the wind. Now separate from the trunk, it revealed that the branch had lost its core from which its strength came, and was completely hollow. It was a profound lesson in why many of us struggle to deepen our faith, even though we may desire to know God at a deeper level.

It occurs to me that branches aren't grafted onto a tree, but rather grow from the tree itself. They form a vital part of the tree from which new life has the potential to grow. Consider that the next time you are finding relief from the sun beneath a tree. Lacking a strong core, the branches cannot find the necessary ingredients to flourish and live. In this case, the tree itself seemed well intact, but for some reason, this particular branch had lost its core.

Consider this lesson in the realm of life and faith. Where does our core, our strength of will and purpose, come from? For some, and I have to admit that I have fallen into this trap many times in my life, we focus on building strength in ourselves and in our future through building and enhancing security around us. That's certainly a good thing when you consider the importance of building economic security, career security, and especially health security. But in the end, can any of us save ourselves from a crumbling economy or from the effects of the environment that make us sick? We are at the mercy of the world in which we live, despite all our noble attempts at risk management.

It's ironic to me that the one 'security' we can and should build upon is the one many of us relegate to lesser importance, or, at worst, deem insignificant.

Eventually, our health will fail us and our earthly journey will end. When that happens, our financial assets will be distributed as we had directed, and our estate 'settled.' Those who have invested in their 'faith security,' however, realize that, as final as all this may appear, it is really a rebirth into the life that God has prepared for us from the day we came into this world. It's why people who have built a core of faith see hope rather than fear in the future. Let's pray about that.

*The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on*

## Mass Intentions for the Week

*Sat, September 14: +Katie Lynn Pizzetta*

*Sun, September 15: For the people*

*Tue, September 17: Colbi Capuano*

*Wed, September 18: John Edward Thornburg*

*Thu, September 19: John Edward Thornburg*

*Fri, September 20 +Danny Williams*

*"Whoever wishes to come after  
me must deny himself,  
take up his cross, and follow me."*



## 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mark 8:27-35

*Peter declares that Jesus is the Christ, and Jesus teaches that those who would follow him must take up his or her cross.*

### Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's reading is the turning point in Mark's Gospel. In the presentation of the life and ministry of Jesus found in the Gospel of Mark, the deeds of Jesus have shown Jesus to be the Son of God. Yet many, including Jesus' disciples, have not yet realized his identity. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the disciples for a field report by asking what others say about him. He then turns the question directly to the disciples and asks what they believe. Peter speaks for all of them when he announces that they believe Jesus to be the Christ.

The word Christ is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word for Messiah, which means "the anointed one." At the time of Jesus, the image of the Messiah was laden with popular expectations, most of which looked for a political leader who would free the Jewish people from Roman occupation. Jesus does not appear to have used this term for himself. As we see in today's reading, Jesus refers to himself instead as the Son of Man, a term derived from the Jewish Scriptures, found in the Book of Daniel and in other apocryphal writings. Many scholars suggest that the phrase Son of Man is best understood to mean "human being."

Now that the disciples have acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he will be rejected, must suffer and die, and will rise after three days. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely. The image of Christ that Jesus is giving is not the image of the Messiah that Peter was expecting.

Jesus then teaches the crowd and the disciples about the path of discipleship: To be Christ's disciple is to follow in the way of the cross. We can easily miss the fear that Jesus' words must have evoked in his disciples. Death by crucifixion was all too familiar as a method of execution in Roman-occupied territories. It was also an omnipresent danger to the Christian community for whom Mark wrote. The path that Jesus was inviting his disciples to share meant tremendous suffering and death. This is the kind of radical commitment and sacrifice that Jesus calls us to adopt for the sake of the Gospel.

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

### In Our Parish

**September 19:** Ultreya, Family Life Center, 7pm

**October 15:** OCIA begins. If you or someone you know is interested in gaining a deeper understanding of our faith please refer to the registration form on the parish website.

### In Our Diocese

**September 15: Wedding Anniversary Mass:**

The Bishop will recognize couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 years or more with a Mass and reception. Please fill out the form in the vestibule.

**September 27:** Healing Mass for Couples, Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church, Pass Christian, 6pm

**November 9:** 3rd Annual Bishop's Gala, Beau Rivage Magnolia Ballroom, purchase tickets online; [catholiccharitiesofsouthms.org](http://catholiccharitiesofsouthms.org)



*Altar Flowers are in honor of  
The Lusk, Baker, McCaleb, Ryan, &  
Aken Families*

Collections Sept 7 & 8, 2024  
\$3455.11

Next Week's Second Collection is for  
*Loaves and Fishes*

*In Loving Memory  
of Lusk, Baker, McCaleb,  
Ryan & Aken Families*



*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. You are forever in our hearts.*

*Love, Bubba and your family*

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



"And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him. My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive your brother from your heart." Mt 18:34-35

Scripture from the New American Standard Bible © (NASB), © by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. www.lockman.org



*In loving memory of*

*Nicolas & Loyce Hire*

*Oct 2, 1921-Mar 9, 2021*

*Feb 10, 1933-Oct 7, 2022*

*Together in Heaven*



*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*



*In Loving Memory of  
Berniece Louise Garner*

*Dec. 8 1932-Dec. 22, 2022*

*Truly an example of Amazing Grace.*

*The Holy Scriptures were not given to us that we should enclose them in books, but that we should engrave them upon our hearts. -Saint John Chrysostom*



*John A. Rogalski*

*July 6, 1926-January 22, 2011*

*Sadly, missed by wife  
Thelma, family, &  
friends.*



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an additional**

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**TEACHER ASSISTANT**

Email your resume and application to  
Mrs. Eleanor Hartzog at [ehartzog@stal.org](mailto:ehartzog@stal.org).

Visit our website at [www.stal.org](http://www.stal.org) to access the  
employment application and job description.