

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Weekend of August 13 & 14, 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.

“There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!”



Monsignor Dominick Fullam, Pastor

Robert Wescovich Jr., Deacon

William Shaidnagle, Deacon

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E-Mail: stmichaelccbiloxi@gmail.com

App Store: MyParish (select St Michael)

Facebook: facebook.com/Stmichaelbiloxi

Mass Schedule:
Weekdays
Tues-Fri 8am

Weekends
Saturday 5pm
Sunday 10am

Confessions:

Saturday 4-4:30 pm or by Appointment

Office hours: Tues-Thurs
8:30am-2:30pm

Use your cell phone camera to link to the St. Michael store or make online donations.



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 12:49-53

Jesus has come not only to bring peace but also division.

Having reminded the apostles and the crowd that facing the coming judgment takes patience, Jesus now goes on to speak of how difficult it will be to wait. He tells them that he has come to set the earth on fire. Recall that in chapter 3 of Luke's Gospel, John the Baptist tells the crowd that he is baptizing with water, but someone mightier is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. The fire Jesus speaks of here is the distress caused by the coming judgment. It is also the fire of the Spirit that Luke, in the Acts of the Apostles, will describe descending on the disciples on Pentecost. That fire will strengthen them to go out to the whole world to preach the good news of Jesus' Resurrection.

Jesus will be the first to experience the distress of the coming judgment. His baptism will be the conflict into which he will be immersed as he approaches Jerusalem and his death on the cross. His followers will not be spared that distress. The angels at Jesus' birth proclaimed peace on earth, and Simeon, holding the baby Jesus in the Temple, said to God: "Master, now you may let your servant go in peace." Here Jesus tells the crowd not to think he has come to bring peace; he has come to bring division. Simeon said as much when he turned to Mary and said that the child was destined for the rise and fall of many and to be a sign that will be contradicted. Peace is the ultimate end of the Kingdom of God, but peace has a price. Jesus is warning the crowd that wherever the Word of God is heard and acted upon, division occurs. Fathers will be divided against sons and mothers against daughters.

The coming judgment forces us to look at the implications of our commitments. As Jesus warned in last Sunday's Gospel, a commitment of faith requires us to change our attitude toward material possessions and to take even more seriously our moral responsibilities. Here he reminds the crowd that those who commit to him will find it affects the way they relate to friends and family members. The angel who announced the birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah said John would go before Jesus to turn the hearts of fathers toward their children. But a commitment to Jesus forces us to change the way we live our lives, and this can put strains on relationships.

We don't expect to hear such difficult words from Jesus in the Gospel. But it is good to be reminded once in a while that the decision to do the right thing, the good thing, is not always easy and without conflict. Jesus himself did not make easy decisions and avoid conflict. In today's reading, he reminds his followers to be prepared for difficult decisions and conflict as well.

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

CALLING ALL ARTISTS! The St. Michael Christmas Ornament contest is underway!

If you are interested in creating the 2022 St. Michael Christmas ornament, the entry forms with details are on the table in the vestibule of the Church. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Fundraising Team.

Ministry News

RCIA

Applications are now available in the church vestibule for the upcoming RCIA sessions. You can return them to the church office, drop them in the collection baskets, or return them to our Deacons.

St. Michael Saint Vincent de Paul

To make a donation of food or money, bring your offering to St. Michael's office, leave in basket in entry of church (money can be placed in poor box, checks payable to SVDP) or give to Mrs. Cynthia Powell. Thank you for all your support in this worthwhile ministry that helps the people of East Biloxi.



*Altar Flowers
are in Memory of
Corky & Loyce Nire*

Hurricane Season is upon us!

Be Prepared: Have a full tank of gas, locate and secure valuables and important papers.

Have a plan:

- Gather info about hazards in your area.
- Meet with your family to create a plan.
- Implement your plan when a hurricane watch is declared in your area.
- Plan a route and alternate route if you leave.
- Tune into your local radio and news stations for shelter information.
- Arrange for someone not in your area to notify friends and family of your plans and whereabouts.

Mass for the Intentions Week

Sat, Aug 13 For the People
Sun, Aug 14 +Nicolas Corky” Hire
Tues, Aug 16 +Lusk & Baker Families
Wed, Aug 17 +Katie Lynn Pizzetta
Thurs, Aug 18 +Velma Baker &
+Sister Mary Adrienne Curet
Fri, Aug 19 +Lois Miques Higginbotham

Mass Intentions: Tuesday-Saturdays excluding Holy Days. If you would like to have Mass said in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please call the office at 228-435-5578. Thank you!

**UPCOMING
Events**

In Our Parish

August 15: Mass 8am for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (Not a Holyday of obligation)

August 14: Knights of Columbus Beignet Breakfast 11am Family Life Center

August 18: 7pm Ultreya Family Life Center

Mondays: 7pm Men’s Prayer Group

In Our Diocese

August 23: 6:30-8pm Gloria in Excelsis Community Choir practice starts. Sacred Heart Center at Nativity BVM. For mor information call Terry Maddox 251 406-1454

October 15: Retreat “In Defense of Mother Church” by Fr. Mark Beard, Director of Our Lady of Hope Retreat Center in Chatawa, MS, at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church in Ocean Springs. Retreat is from 8:30 am to 2 pm followed by Confession and Mass from 3-4 pm. \$75 - includes Lunch and Retreat Booklet. Register at www.OurLadyofHopems.com/events.

November 6: the *Annual Mass of Wedding Anniversaries* celebrating 25, 30,35,40,50,55, or 60 years of marriage will be held at 2 pm at the Nativity BVM Cathedral. The deadline for registration is October 14, 2022. You can register online at www.biloxidiocese.org or bring completed application to the St. Michael office.

Collections August 6 & 7, 2022
\$7969

This Weeks Gospel Luke 12:49-53

Lay Leanings

By Deacon Mike Stewart

As soon as I walked into the meeting room, I knew I was in trouble. Two things were obvious. First, the room was full of very brainy-looking people. Second, since I was late, the only empty chairs were in the front rows. Having no other option, I found my seat. There’s lots of elbow room up here, I rationalized to myself; and then I looked up at the image on the screen. It’s difficult to explain, but it looked like an electrical schematic, whatever that is. I gave it an honest five minutes before I reasoned that I was hopelessly trapped. In fact, I’m writing this column from the front row right now; all while attempting attentive eye contact with Dr. Molecule, and nodding my head in disingenuous approval.

It’s a strange human phenomenon that we have an aversion to the front row, at least when it comes to church or school or meetings. For whatever reason, the back rows seem to fill up first and fast. And yet it’s interesting that exactly the opposite is true at entertainment or sporting events. Front row tickets are like gold. So what’s going on?

Maybe it has something to do with commitment. Let’s face it; the front row screams commitment. The front row implies that we’re interested; prepared to become completely involved; not afraid of being called upon or singled out. That’s particularly true in the case of entertainment events, where we’ll do just about anything to get noticed by the celebrities. However, when it comes to church, the front pews often imply that we were simply late, or the usher was in a bad mood. Otherwise, given a choice, we quickly head for a less conspicuous place, don’t we?

Whatever the reason, our behavioral language strongly suggests that back is safest, middle is straddling, but the front is like pushing off into deep water for the first time. Maybe we fear the commitment of moving forward because we fear that doing so will come with a demand of some sort. But consider that faith is a commitment. Faith is a call to step forward and make an investment in your relationship with God.

The Gospels make it very clear that Jesus consistently came forward, and he was strongly condemned for doing so. Eventually he paid the ultimate price. Most of us won’t be asked to make that sacrifice, however. Nevertheless, to take our faith to the next level; to develop a deeper relationship with God, we have to come forward ... maybe not in a literal sense as to where we sit in church, but certainly in the commitment of the heart. The old saying rings very true with regard to our faith – ‘you get from it what you give to it.’

Come closer to God. There’s lots of room up there!

Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will act. Psalm 37:5

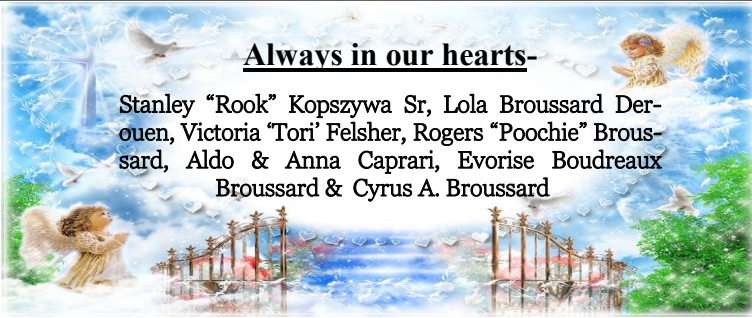
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Email: layleanings@gmail.com

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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



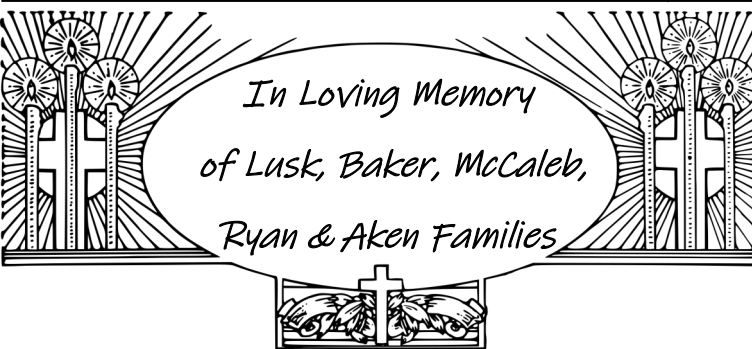
Pray for the safety of our Policemen!



August 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.

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



Happy 87th Birthday to our 2022 Shrimp King Joe "Sonny" Powell August 29th

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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Biloxi (228) 374-5650 Ocean Springs (228) 875-1266
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Happy 79th Birthday
Ronald Baker
July 29



*In loving memory of
Nicolas "Corky" Hire
Oct 2, 1921-
Mar 9, 2021*

Men interested in Cursillo

We invite you to join in our Men's Prayer Group. The meetings are held each Monday at 7:00pm in the church conference room.

*Happy Anniversary to
Richard Johnston &
In Loving Memory of
Janet Johnston*



*Love,
Your Children, Your Grandchildren
and Your Great Grandchildren*