

# ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Weekend of December 31, 2022 & January 1, 2023

Established 1917



Wishing you  
a very blessed  
New Year!

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.



### 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](https://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**

**Office closed January 3,4,& 5**

## Nativity of the Lord-Vigil Mass Gospel Reading

*Luke 2:16-21*

The shepherds find Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's reading is a continuation from the Gospel proclaimed at the Christmas Mass at midnight. In it the shepherds act upon the message they receive from the angel and go to find Jesus in the manger in Bethlehem. In their visit to the manger, the shepherds find things just as the angel had said. The shepherds' visit, therefore, is a moment of fulfillment, manifestation, and the beginning of the salvation we receive through Christ.

In the context of today's Solemnity, this reading also helps us focus on Mary as the Mother of God. The reading tells us at least three things about Mary as a mother. First, Mary is described as a reflective person, keeping the reports of the shepherds in her heart. Second, we are reminded of how obedient Mary was to God when she named the baby *Jesus* as the angel Gabriel had directed. Third, this reading shows Mary and Joseph faithfully observing their Jewish tradition by having Jesus circumcised.

Mary's faithfulness to God is evident in all three of these things. Her reflection upon the events in her life indicates that she was a person of prayer. This prayer made possible her obedience to God and God's will, even if the outcome was not clear. Finally, her faithfulness to a community of faith grounded her relationship with God and enabled her to participate in God's plan of salvation.

Because of Mary's faithfulness to God, she was able to receive the gift of God's Son and accept her role in God's plan for salvation. By doing so, she models for us the path of discipleship and is also called Mother of the Church.

Our call to discipleship also includes these three aspects. First, discipleship means prayer and reflection on the events of our lives that we might see God's presence and work in our lives. Second, discipleship means obedience to God and God's will. Third, discipleship includes fidelity to a community of faith.

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

**Next Week's Second Collection is for  
Aged and Infirm Priests**

## Ministry News

*St. Michael Saint Vincent de Paul*

**SVDP is holding a food drive for the month of December** to restock the food pantry. Your gift of non perishable food can be left in the vestibule collection boxes or brought to the St. Michael office. Thank you!

### 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.

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, eastbiloxiyouthministry@gmail.com



Consult not your fears, but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential.

Concern not yourself with what you tried and failed in, but what it is still possible to do.

Now is the time to put aside past and present setbacks and failures and look with confidence to the new day called tomorrow.

— Pope John XXIII

**Altar Flowers are in Memory of  
all your Christmas Flower  
Intentions**

**Collections December 24 & 25, 2022  
\$9141.00**

# Mass for the Intentions Week

Sat, Dec 31 +Sharon Girouard  
Sun, Jan 1 +Michael Allen Dye Jr.  
Tues, Jan 3 For the People  
Fri, Jan 6 +Liam Pitalo

**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

### Happy New Year!

**January 3,4 & 5:** Office is closed

**Sundays:** 4pm LifeTeen

**Mondays:** 7pm Men's Prayer Group

**Tuesdays:** 7pm RCIA

**Wednesdays:** 10-11am SVDP Food Pantry

**Wednesdays:** 5:30 CCD

## In Our Diocese

**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](mailto: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](mailto:heiditravel66@gmail.com)

### Men interested in Cursillo

We invite you to join in our Men's Prayer Group.

The meetings are held Monday at 7:00pm in the church conference room.

### *Lay Leanings*

By Deacon Mike Stewart

I was meeting with a family following a funeral, and was introduced to the deceased's brother, the last surviving family member. When I acknowledged him for also being the youngest brother, he smiled and

replied, "Well, I was Mom and Dad's mistake." His wife, sitting alongside him smiled and quickly responded, "And boy, am I ever glad you were."

It's always amused me just how those who are the product of two people who were certain they had their life and childbearing all planned out, announce that their parents somehow miscalculated. Some are embarrassed; some are amused; others could care less. I can neither confirm nor deny that our children were the result of precise planning; well, not if I want to have a place to sleep this year.

What is certain is that God is full of surprises. So often, I find myself somewhere between slightly annoyed and slightly amused when I hear someone asked the question, 'What's new?'; and their response is simply, 'nothing'.

Near the end of the bible; in Revelation 21:5, God says, "Behold, I make all things new," as God offers a glimpse at life beyond this world. While that certainly offers us a measure of hope in a sometimes dark and hopeless world, I would challenge us to pay more careful attention to that same world all around us, right in the here and now. If we were to really, truly pay attention to how God works in our ordinary lives in a single day, we may be amazed at just how 'new' our lives really are each day. We may drive to work by the same route each day, but God is constantly placing something new in our midst that wasn't there yesterday. You may encounter the same people each day, but since their lives are constantly changing, they are not the same people you encountered yesterday. You may miss an incredible sunset because you were glued to your phone. God may have placed someone in need into your midst, but you missed them because you weren't paying attention. You never read this column before; you may hear a song today for the first time; you are one day closer to the end of your life than you were when you woke this morning.

Some of God's greatest surprises are those which bring us the highest joy in life; while others may cause suffering that we could not anticipate. God is a God of constant change and newness, full of surprises, and always drawing us into a deeper awareness of the fullness of life that is always right there in front of us.

In this New Year, perhaps you and I can commit to paying closer attention to just how God is indeed, making all things new in your life and in mine. And the first time someone asks you this year, "What's new?" ... enthusiastically respond, "Everything!!!"

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 God, Thank you for your presence with us, thank you for your Almighty Shadow. Thank you that you go before us, and cover us from behind. Thank you that you are in our midst and that our future is secure in the place you're preparing for us. Your words bring such hope and comfort. Remind us of your strength today, may we see glimpses of your glory and blessing along the way as we seek after you. For victory and salvation are found in you alone. In the Mighty Name of Jesus, Amen.



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



In loving Memory  
 John A Rogalski  
 9/6/1926-1/22/2011  
 Always 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.  
 You are forever in our hearts.



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Birthday Blessings  
 Wishing a fabulous Birthday to  
**Thelma Rogalski**  
 January 16th!!



In loving memory of  
 Nicolas & Loyce Hire  
 Oct 2, 1921-Mar 9, 2021  
 Feb 10, 1933-Oct 7, 2022  
 Together in Heaven



In remembrance of  
 Peter Kuluz Sr.  
 Feb 6, 1935-Dec 29, 2014  
 Never far from our thoughts



**TAGS FOR LIFE**  
 The Diocese of Biloxi Pro Life Ministry is proud to announce our very own Pro Life Billboard license plate!  
 The sale of these plates will help support the Pro Life Ministry. You may purchase the plate by downloading an application on the Diocesan website at biloxidiocese.org or scanning the code below.

MISSISSIPPI  
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 CHOOSE LIFE