

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Weekend of March 30 & 31, 2024

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.

RISEN

MARK 16

Monsignor Dominick Fullam, Pastor

Robert Wescovich Jr., Deacon

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App Store: MyParish (select St Michael)

Facebook: facebook.com/Stmichaelbiloxi

Instagram: Instagram.com/stmichaelbiloxims

Mass Schedule:

Weekdays

Tues-Fri 8am*

***No Masses Apr 2-5**

Weekends

Saturday 5pm

Sunday 10am



venmo



Confessions:
Saturday 4-4:30 pm or by Appointment
Office hours: Tues-Thurs
8:30am-3pm
Office Closed April 9th

Easter Sunday

Mark 16:1-7

The women find that the stone from Jesus' tomb has been rolled back, and an angel reports that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Each of the four Gospels reports that the women who had been followers of Jesus discovered the empty tomb after his death. Today we read from the Gospel of Mark, which contains the most succinct of all the reports of Jesus' Resurrection in the Gospels.

Scholars have long noted some irregularities about the ending of Mark's Gospel. The report of the discovery of the empty tomb comes to an abrupt conclusion after verse 8. While some believe this is the original ending of Mark's Gospel, others theorize that there was a longer ending that was lost.

Some manuscripts of Mark's Gospel, written between the fourth and ninth centuries, include what scholars have termed the Shorter Ending, which is often printed in our Bibles for reference. This ending indicates that the women told their story to Peter's companions. Scholars believe that this ending was not written by Mark, but was probably added by later copyists who sought to resolve the abrupt ending at verse 8.

Other early manuscripts include a Longer Ending, which scholars also believe was written by someone other than the evangelist Mark. Quotations from this Longer Ending are found in the writings of the early Church Fathers, however, indicating that this Longer Ending has been included as part of Mark's Gospel for some time. This Longer Ending, Mark 16:9-20, was accepted at the Council of Trent as part of the canonical Gospel. Portions of this Longer Ending are read as part of our weekday lectionary cycle and on the Feast of the Ascension in Cycle B. Without this Longer Ending, the Gospel of Mark would report no post-Resurrection appearances of Jesus.

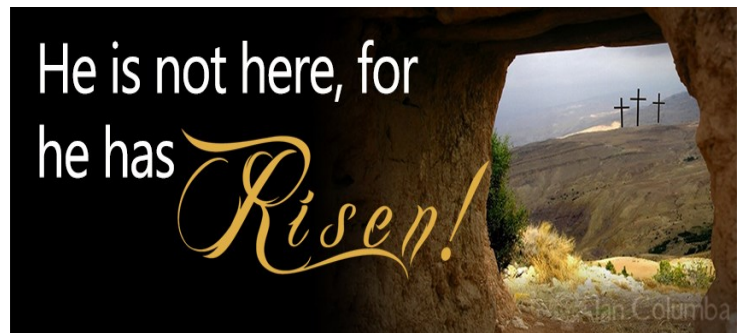
In today's Gospel, Mark reports the names of three women who go to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. They are Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary, the mother of James. According to Mark, these are the same women who were among those watching Jesus' Crucifixion from a distance. Mark reports that these women were followers of Jesus in Galilee and that they ministered to him. Mark also reports that Mary Magdalene and Mary observed where Jesus' body was laid. After his death, these women come again to minister to Jesus.

Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary, the mother of James, go to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. It is clear from Mark's report of their conversation that they had not worked out all the necessary details. They know that a very large stone was used to seal Jesus' tomb, but they do not know how they are going to remove it. When they arrive at the tomb, they find that the stone has already been rolled back. Upon entering the tomb, they meet an angel who tells them that Jesus has been raised from the dead. The angel then recalls Jesus' promise to his disciples that he would go before them to Galilee.

Amazement would seem to be a natural reaction to the experience that the women had that morning. Yet the angel chides them for being amazed. Perhaps the reason is found in the words that follow, as the angel reminds them that Jesus himself had told his disciples that he would see them again in Galilee. If the women had listened and heeded Jesus' words, they would not have been surprised to find the tomb empty. This highlights a theme of Mark's Gospel: the disciples of Jesus are often clueless about the true identity of Jesus and confounded by his message to them.

Nonetheless, we can find some hope for the disciples, just as there is hope for us when we find ourselves unsure about Jesus. The disciples in today's Gospel were faithful followers of Jesus and remained present through Jesus' death on the cross. In fact, they came to the tomb that morning expecting to minister to Jesus once again. Instead, they were sent to minister in a different way, as apostles to Peter and the other disciples. Because we hear this Gospel proclaimed today, we know that they honored Jesus by accepting this mission.

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



Collections March 23 & 24, 2024
\$4008.00

Next Week's Second Collection is for
St. Vincent de Paul

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat, Mar 30 + Gregory Smolcich
Sun, Mar 31 For the People

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

March 31: Easter Egg Hunt 11am ages 13 and younger

April 1-5: No 8am Masses, Priest Retreat

July 7: Blessing of the Fleet, 11am-5pm, Great Lawn

Ongoing Events:

Sundays: 6:40pm LifeTeen

Mondays: 7pm Men's Prayer Group

Tuesdays: 7pm OCLIA

Wednesdays: 10-11am SVDP Food Pantry

Wednesdays: 5:30 CCD

Thursdays: 9am Homeschool Explorers Club

In Our Diocese

First Saturday Devotions-Adoration, Rosary Meditation and Confessions, first Saturday of each month, St. Mary Church, Woolmarket 9:45am followed by Mass at 11am. All are welcome.

April 20-Bill Seal Charity Golf Tournament 8am, The Bridges Golf Club, Bay St. Louis. All funds collected support Catholic education in the Biloxi Diocese as well as local charities. Applications in vestibule or register online on Facebook "Bill Seal Charity Golf Tournament" for more information Call Phyllis Seal 228-860-7556 or see additional contacts on application and in vestibule display.

July 17-21-10th National Eucharistic Congress.

Catholics from every corner of the U.S. will be in Indianapolis for this transformative gathering, and YOU are invited to represent our parish at this pivotal moment! Come encounter and worship Jesus in a new way, and be anointed to share those graces with our community when you return home. More than ever, you will be proud to be Catholic and excited about the future of the Church in America. Scan the code to learn more about the event and explore the full schedule for each day.



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Lay Leanings

By Deacon Mike Stewart

We buried my brother and last surviving family member this past week. Though it was a joyous celebration, the sense of loss was obvious in those who gathered. As with any funeral, some were family, some work acquaintances, others were friends, but there is always a sense of heaviness in having to let someone we love go before we are ready. And yet, we all know that death does not discriminate, nor does it care much about our circumstances or sense of readiness. Death always happens in the midst of life.

While it would have been easy to focus solely on the grief, I found myself seeing something quite different. I saw cousins reconnecting with cousins, and nieces and nephews being introduced to one another for the first time. I saw an immense sense of joy even in that space of sadness. In my reflection at the funeral, I shared how life-giving it was to experience something we may otherwise miss if we aren't paying attention. Many times in my life, and very likely in yours, when God allows something to die in us, God creates a space for something to be born anew. That awareness alone is a resurrection moment.

As we gather on this Easter day, we celebrate what was the pathway to new life. While the certainty and gravity of death is a universal language, on this day, as St. Paul so wisely observes in 1 Corinthians, death loses its sting, death ceases to have the final word.

We will die many 'little deaths' throughout our lives, and we will experience many 'little resurrections' before God calls us home. I would like to believe that, if we are paying close attention, we should have plenty of reasons to believe that indeed, HE IS RISEN!

Easter Joy and Peace to you and your family!



CSA update: Goal \$14636, Pledged \$1700, One Time Gifts \$19,895. Total Paid to Date \$20,220

*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*



In Loving Memory of
Berniece Louise Garner
Dec. 8 1932–Dec. 22, 2022
Truly an example of Amazing
Grace.



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

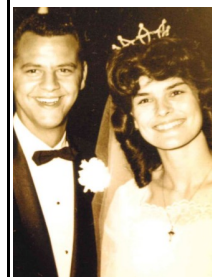


Always in our hearts

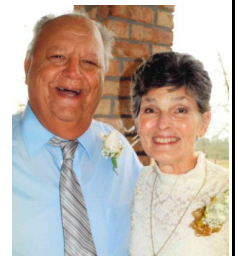
*Stanley "Rook" Kopszywa Sr, Lola Broussard Derouen,
Victoria "Tori" Felsher, Rogers "Poochie" Broussard,
Aldo & Anna Caprari, Evorise Boudreaux Broussard
& Cyrus A. Broussard*



Happy Birthday
Helena C. Pelous
March 22nd
From, the Pelous Family
and all your friends



To our loving parents
**Elwin and Yvonne
Battaya**
We wish you both a
Happy 60th Wedding
Anniversary!
3/15/64 to 3/15/24
Love, Your Children & Family



A Prayer for Easter Sunday

Lord God, You loved this world so much, that you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too. Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace Of Easter Sunday, everyday.

Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice. Let us have eyes that look upon your grace and rejoice in our salvation. Help us to walk in that mighty grace and tell your good news to the world. All for your glory do we pray, Lord. Amen.



Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday March 31

Following 10am Easter Sunday Mass
All parishioners and visitors ages 13 and
younger are invited to bring their basket
and hunt for eggs!

Call Cherie Prentiss for more information
228-365-4017