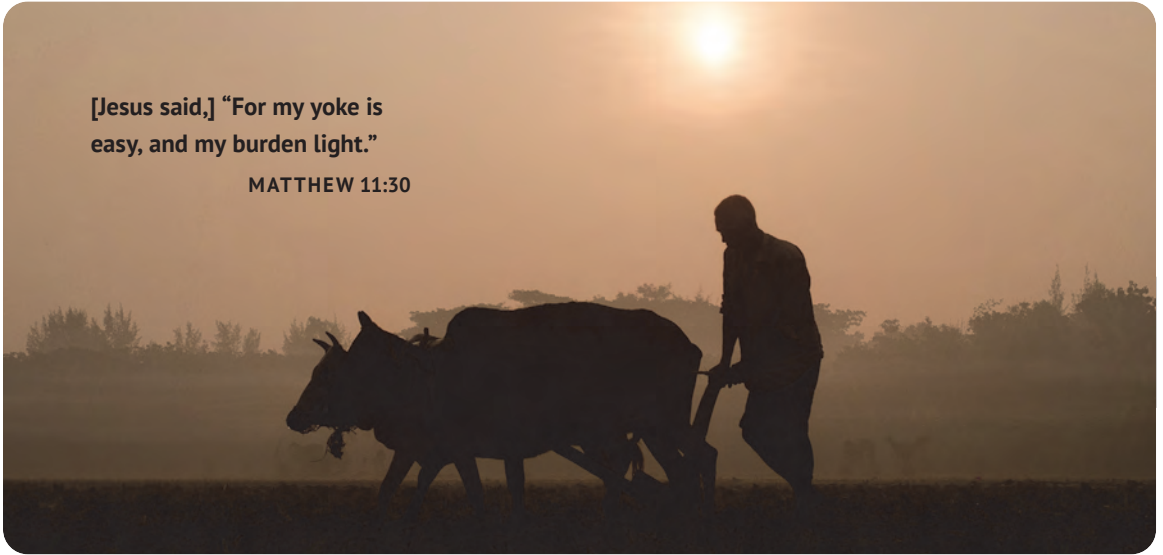




[Jesus said,] “For my yoke is  
easy, and my burden light.”

MATTHEW 11:30



## Take Up the Yoke

ANN M. GARRIDO

**T**he invention of the yoke 6,000 years ago marked one of the great advances in human history. The yoke—a wooden beam fitted across the neck—harnessed the energy of two cattle pulling in the same direction, hastening the tilling of soil and transport of goods.

It is easy to see why, among many ancient peoples, the yoke became a symbol of subjugation. When the Roman army won a battle, they forced defeated soldiers to walk beneath a “yoke” of spears to indicate they were now in a state of servitude. The prophet Jeremiah once walked through Jerusalem wearing a yoke to warn the people they were about to be conquered by Babylon.

In Judaism, however, the Torah was also sometimes referred to as a yoke. It was a law to be submitted to, but it also was a way of life that offered an alternative to the cruel “yokes” imposed by kings. The Book of Sirach encourages youth to “Take [Torah’s] yoke upon your neck; that your mind may receive her teaching.... See for yourselves! I have labored only a little but have found much” (Sirach 51:26–27).

It is unclear exactly what Jesus meant when he invited us to accept *his* yoke, but it is likely that he was echoing the invitation of Sirach. He wanted us to know that following God’s law makes it possible for us to work together, accomplishing much that we could not do on our own. And that God’s law is a gentle law—one that enables rather than oppresses. Are you willing to receive Christ’s gentle teaching and make it your own? ●

### Reflect

***Is there a teaching of Jesus you find challenging?***

## ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

411 N. Missouri St., West Memphis, AR 72301

### Mass Times

- **Saturday Vigil:** 5:00 p.m.
- **Sunday:** 10:30 a.m.

### Church Office

410 Pine St., West Memphis, AR

Phone: 870-733-1212

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 899, West Memphis,  
AR 72303

Email: [westmemphiscatholic@gmail.com](mailto:westmemphiscatholic@gmail.com)

### Office Hours:

**Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.**

**Secretary:** Gladys Hampton

### St. Michael's Catholic School

Email: [smcswm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:smcswm@sbcglobal.net)

Website: [stmichaelwm.com](http://stmichaelwm.com)

Facebook: [facebook.com/wmsmcs/](https://facebook.com/wmsmcs/)

**Principal:** Michael Beauregard, Ed.D.

**Grades:** PreK3 & PreK4, K, 1st, 2nd, 4th

405 N. Missouri St., West Memphis, AR 72301

Phone: 870-735-1730

**Pastor: Fr. Gilbert Tairo, CSSp**

## SACRED HEART– Crawfordsville, AR

Mission Church

216 S. Main St., Crawfordsville, AR

- **Sunday Mass:** 8:30 a.m.

### Parish Religious Education (PRE)

Director: Libby Burroughs

PRE Classes: **Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. (Grades K–12)**

## Financial Council Members

Donna McAlister  
Kevin Meyers

Shelley Pugh  
Joanne Smith  
Ken Thomas

Ginger Wilkinson  
Phillip Wray

## Parish Council Members

Patsy Fletcher (President)  
Lisa Schafer (Vice President)  
Margaret Henson (Secretary)  
Beth Aureli

Tony Bell  
Mary Jane Flowers  
Claude Hunt  
Ricardo Ledezma

Tim Marconi  
Joanne Smith  
Lauren Wray  
Jo Zachary



## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

ST MICHAEL'S

TUESDAY: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

SATURDAY: 4:00 - 5:00 PM

SACRED HEART

FRIDAY: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

*"Come adore the Lord truly present in the most blessed sacrament"*





# Welcome back, Father Gilbert!



We're so glad to see you  
safely home from *Tanzania*.

May God continue to bless you,  
and we look forward to hearing  
about your journey!

Welcome  
home! ♥

# iBienvenido de nuevo, Padre Gilbert!



Estamos muy felices de verlo  
llegar a casa sano y salvo de *Tanzania*.

Que Dios lo siga bendiciendo,  
¡y estamos ansiosos por escuchar  
sobre su viaje!

iBienvenido  
a casa! ♥

2ND COLLECTION

JULY 11-12

## PETER'S PENCE

(COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY FATHER)



THIS SPECIAL COLLECTION IS  
TAKEN UP IN ALL PARISHES  
ACROSS ARKANSAS.

It enables the Holy Father to respond  
with emergency financial assistance  
to requests to aid the most needy  
throughout the world.

THIS CAN INCLUDE THOSE WHO ARE  
SUFFERING AS A RESULT OF **WAR**,  
**OPPRESSION** and **NATURAL DISASTERS**.



YOUR GENEROSITY SUPPORTS THE MISSION OF THE HOLY FATHER.

*Thank you!*



# BINGO NIGHT!



**BINGO**

**DOORS OPEN**  
AT  
**6:00PM**

**GAMES START**  
AT  
**7:00PM**

**WE NOW HAVE TWO JACKPOTS**  
WORTH **\$1,000** EACH,

48

&

56

NUMBER CALLED      NUMBERS CALLED

★ **RAFFLE PRIZE IS NOW UP TO** ★

**\$1,500**

Join us for  
**BINGO**  
every  
**TUESDAY NIGHT**  
IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Bring your  
**FRIENDS, FAMILY**  
AND LUCKY CHARMS.

*We can't wait*  
**TO SEE YOU THERE.**

SCAN FOR  
LATEST  
BINGO INFO.





**DIÓCESIS CATÓLICA DE  
LITTLE ROCK**

**LA DIÓCESIS CATÓLICA DE  
LITTLE ROCK**  
*está comprometida a*  
**PROTEGER A LOS  
NIÑOS Y JÓVENES.**

 Si usted está enterado de algún abuso o ha sido abusado por Clérigos, voluntarios o funcionarios de la Iglesia, por favor comuníquese a la Línea de Ayuda del Estado de Arkansas para Crímenes contra Niños al  
**(800) 482-5964**

 y con el Canciller | Asesor General,  
**Diác. Matthew A. Glover**  
**(501) 664-0340, ext. 361**

 Para asistencia pastoral, por favor comuníquese con la Coordinadora de Asistencia para Víctimas de la Diócesis de Little Rock  
**Laura Gottsponer**  
**(501) 499-9110**





**Diócesis de Little Rock**  
2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207



**The Catholic Diocese  
of Little Rock**

**IS COMMITTED TO  
PROTECTING CHILDREN  
AND YOUNG PEOPLE.**

 **STATE OF ARKANSAS HOTLINE  
FOR CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN**  
**1-800-482-5964**

 **CHANCELLOR | GENERAL COUNSEL**  
Dcn. Matthew A. Glover  
**(501) 664-0340 ext. 361**

 **FOR PASTORAL ASSISTANCE**  
please contact the Victim Assistance  
Coordinator for the Diocese of Little Rock:  
**Laura Gottsponer**  
**(501) 499-9110**



  
*Let the little children  
come to me,  
and do not hinder  
them, for the kingdom  
of God belongs to  
such as these.*  
— Mark 10:14



**DIOCESE OF  
LITTLE ROCK**  
2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207





# CELEBRATE AMERICA'S 250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!

Join St. Michael and Sacred Heart Parish  
immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Mass  
as we celebrate our nation's  
**250th anniversary!**

## WE'D LOVE YOUR HELP!

- ★ Bring a dish
- ★ Serve food
- ★ Help with cleanup
- ★ Assist with games and activities



## ENJOY AN AFTERNOON OF FUN!



**BBQ**  
with all the  
delicious sides



**ICE CREAM  
BAR**



**CORNHOLE**



**VOLLEYBALL**



**SOCCER**



**MUSIC**  
and more!

## SUGGESTED ITEMS TO BRING:



Baked  
beans



Sliced  
watermelon  
(ready to serve)



Jugs  
of tea



A favorite dish  
that reflects your  
family's heritage

♥ We hope you and  
your family will  
join us for this  
special celebration!

If you are interested in helping in any way,  
please text

**Shelley Pugh**  
at 870-636-1096.



# ¡CELEBREMOS EL 250º ANIVERSARIO DE ESTADOS UNIDOS!

Acompaña a la Parroquia de  
San Miguel y Sagrado Corazón

## DOMINGO, 12 DE JULIO

inmediatamente después de la Misa de 10:30 a.m.  
para celebrar el **250º aniversario** de nuestra nación!

## ¡DIVERSIÓN PARA TODA LA FAMILIA!



**BBQ**  
con todos los  
acompañamientos  
deliciosos



**BARRA DE  
HELADOS**



**JUEGOS**  
para todas  
las edades  
(cornhole y más)



**VOLEIBOL**



**FÚTBOL**



**FÓTOS**  
con la Estatua  
de la Libertad  
y el Tío Sam



**MÚSICA**  
y mucho  
más!

## ¡NOS ENCANTARÍA TU AYUDA!

- ★ Traer un platillo
- ★ Servir la comida
- ★ Ayudar con la limpieza
- ★ Ayudar con los juegos y actividades



## SUGERENCIAS DE PLATILLOS:



Frijoles  
horneados



Sandía  
rebanada  
(lista para  
servir)



Jarras  
de té



Un platillo  
favorito que  
represente la  
herencia de tu  
familia

♥ ¡Esperamos que tú y tu familia nos acompañen  
en esta celebración tan especial!

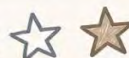


Si estás interesado(a) en ayudar de alguna manera,  
por favor envía un mensaje de texto a

**Shelley Pugh**

al

**870-636-1096.**







*"Verso l'alto"*  
TOWARD THE HEIGHTS

FEAST DAY: JULY 4

# ST. PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI

THE MAN OF THE EIGHT BEATITUDES

On **July 4**, we celebrate St. Pier Giorgio Frassati, who passed away on **July 4, 1925**.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                           |
| <p><b>PATRON SAINT OF</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Catholic youth</li> <li>• Mountain climbers</li> <li>• Skiers</li> <li>• Dominican Tertiaries</li> </ul> | <p><b>LIFE</b></p> <p>Born in Turin, Italy, on April 6, 1901, he was a mechanical engineering student, avid mountaineer, and political activist.</p> | <p><b>CHARITY</b></p> <p>Despite his privileged background, he frequently gave away his own shoes, money, and coats to those in need.</p> | <p><b>CANONIZED</b></p> <p>Canonized on September 7, 2025, he continues to inspire young people with his faith and love for others.</p> | <p><b>MOTTO</b></p> <p>"Verso l'alto" ("Toward the Heights")—a call to always strive higher and walk closer with God.</p> |

“To live without faith, without a patrimony to defend, without a steady struggle for truth, that is not living, but existing.” — ST. PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI

A modern saint. A timeless example.  
*Let us go toward the heights!*



# Save the date! ♥

It has been a blessing to be able to participate in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage as one of the perpetual pilgrims. I cannot thank you all enough for your support and prayers.



On

**JULY 9TH**

- at 6 pm -

**AT ST. MICHAEL'S**



♥  
**ADORATION  
WITH MUSIC**



**PRESENTATION  
ABOUT THE JOURNEY  
I HAVE BEEN ON THIS  
SUMMER**



I'm excited to share with you all and  
gather together with our Lord!  
Know that I have been praying for you all.

God bless,

Angelina







| Week of   | July 11, 2026    | July 12, 2026  |
|-----------|------------------|----------------|
| Lector    | Laura Long       | Jessie Drake   |
| Linens    | Dorothy Foster   |                |
| Communion | Liz Posey        | Patsy Fletcher |
|           | Ginger Creel     | Bert Jenkins   |
|           | Ginger Wilkinson | Beth Aureli    |
| Offertory | Bonnie Waller    | Lugay Family   |
|           | Margie McCain    |                |
| Greeters  | Linda Gay        | Volunteer      |



## PARISH ORGANIZATIONS & FELLOWSHIP



**INFANT OF PRAGUE GUILD:** Meetings are held quarterly in the school cafeteria. *Please watch here for announcements*

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** First Sunday of each month · 7:00 p.m.

**Finance Council** - Thursday, Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> · 5:00 p.m.

**Pastoral Council**- Thursday, Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> · 6:15 p.m.

### ✧ PARISH FELLOWSHIP ✧

**SACRED HEART BRUNCH** - First Sunday — July 5<sup>th</sup> *Following Mass*

**ST. MICHAEL'S BRUNCH**- Second Sunday — July 12<sup>th</sup> *Following Mass – Guild*



# LITURGY SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

|           |      |    |                               |                                                     |
|-----------|------|----|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday  | July | 4  | 9:00 am<br>4:00 pm<br>5:00 pm | MSGR Bernard Malone†<br>Adoration<br>Bobby Cassidy† |
| Sunday    | July | 5  | 8:30 am<br>10:30 am           | Irmgard Paulk†<br>Katy O. Boone†                    |
| Monday    | July | 6  | NO MASS                       |                                                     |
| Tuesday   | July | 7  | 6:00 pm                       | Alivia Hampton (B'day)<br>William Billings†         |
| Wednesday | July | 8  | 8:00 am                       | Danny Foster†                                       |
| Thursday  | July | 9  | 8:00 am                       | Paul Holtz†                                         |
| Friday    | July | 10 | 8:00 am                       | Irmgard Paulk†                                      |
| Saturday  | July | 11 | 4:00 pm<br>5:00 pm            | Adoration<br>Scott Goldsby†                         |
| Sunday    | July | 12 | 8:30 am<br>10:30 am           | James Sibley III†<br>Irmgard Paulk†                 |



## REMEMBER IN PRAYER



Joni Lyne, Patsy & Danny Haynes, James Bell, Charlie Dabbs, Ginny Kimbrell, Carlton Coveny, Carla Sanderson, Kathleen Alparo, Baby Arabella, Ward Roberts, Melanie Beyer, Fairley Vega, Olivia Vega, Richard Gunter, Steve Marasco, Illuminata Wilhelmi, Nancy Ellis Hays, Cathy Stockbridge, Theresa Black, Mary Ann Tyrone, Donald Turlich, Vickey Stanford, John Baioni, Will Hutcherson, Mandi Tacker, Matthew Bain, Edna Alpuente, Joan McCarty, Jane Rice, Neil Sponer, Tracey Tyrone Cox, Grace Pulliam, Alaina Goldsby, Nancy Jackson, Janet Long, Jim Pugh, Jose Cantu, Balthasar Arellano, Joe Alvarez, Jay Guiltner, Scott Goldsmith, Ruben Saldivar, Joanna Kim, Mayson Hall, Walter Smith, Freddy Crabtree, Richard Batkey, Leroy England, Gloria Anderson, Cindy Dabbs, Juan Perez, Jr., Lillie Clark, Eric Densford, Joan White, Tina Imboden, Kay Loney, Johnny McMullin, Victims of War and Violence in our country and throughout the world, especially in the Ukraine. All persons serving in our Military, The Seminarians of the Diocese of Little Rock, and the Religious Men and Women of Arkansas.

### WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION:

June 28, 2026 St. Michael \$3,520.70

Sacred Heart \$447.00

# Dear Padre,

## Is it appropriate to display the American flag in our church?

A diocesan bishop—who often delegates this matter to the discretion of the pastor—determines regulations on whether and how to display the American flag in a Catholic church. Displaying the flag, and a book of remembrance for those serving in the armed forces, seems to have originated in many US parishes during World War II. The practice has continued through subsequent wars and national tragedies.

While the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy advised that national symbols should not be *permanent* fixtures of a worship space, they may be appropriate at worship services on a civil holiday, etc. This same committee discouraged pastors from displaying the American flag within the sanctuary itself—a space reserved for the altar, ambo, presidential chair, and tabernacle—but instead to place the flag in the vestibule of the church together with a book of petitions for the living and deceased.

Fundamentally, a church building is where the liturgical assembly gathers as one body in Christ—the same Christ of the Eucharist who is beyond time and place, who came to unite our divisions. “The church building is a sign and reminder of the immanence and transcendence of God—who chose to dwell among us and whose presence cannot be contained or limited to any single place” (US Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Built of Living Stones*, 2000). ●



JOAQUIN OSSORIO CASTILLO / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)

### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

There is a burning question in our hearts, a need for truth that we cannot ignore, which leads us to ask ourselves: what is true happiness? What is the true meaning of life? What can free us from being trapped in meaninglessness, boredom, and mediocrity?... We need to lift our eyes...to the “things that are above” (Colossians 3:2).

HOMILY, TOR VERGATA, AUGUST 3, 2025

The quotations from Pope Leo XIV are printed with permission, copyright © *Dicastero per la Comunicazione–Libreria Editrice Vaticana*. All rights reserved.



## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### Monday

July 6  
Weekday  
Hos 2:16, 17c–18, 21–22  
Mt 9:18–26

### Tuesday

July 7  
Weekday  
Hos 8:4–7, 11–13  
Mt 9:32–38

### Wednesday

July 8  
Weekday  
Hos 10:1–3, 7–8, 12  
Mt 10:1–7

### Thursday

July 9  
Weekday  
Hos 11:1–4, 8e–9  
Mt 10:7–15

### Friday

July 10  
Weekday  
Hos 14:2–10  
Mt 10:16–23

### Saturday

July 11  
St. Benedict, Abbot  
Is 6:1–8  
Mt 10:24–33

### Sunday

July 12  
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Is 55:10–11  
Rom 8:18–23  
Mt 13:1–23 or 13:1–9