



Will You Notice the Shoot?

ANN M. GARRIDO

Today's first reading from the prophet Isaiah offers a familiar Advent image: the shoot sprouting from the stump of Jesse. The verses immediately preceding speak of God walking through the forest with an ax: "The tall of stature shall be felled, and the lofty ones shall be brought low" (Isaiah 10:33). But now, amidst all the destruction, a tiny sign of new life emerges, and the Spirit of God descends upon it, bearing many gifts—wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, awe, delight.

So often, when we scroll through the news, our attention is captured by violence and war and the "mighty" who make great noise when they fall. "Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees," echoes John the Baptist in today's gospel. If we are looking for where God's Spirit can be found, however, Isaiah reminds us we will need to look elsewhere. We will need to attend to the quiet, fragile resurrections taking place below the surface when it appears as if all has been lost. If we seek wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, awe, and delight, we will need to look where the little ones of the earth are found. We must have our eyes open for the shoots.

The gospels emphasize that Jesus was one such little one. Although the glory days of his people seemed to have come to a crashing close, they have not. In him, we glimpse the truth that life is stronger than death. We see that the future has not been erased, no matter how terrible the past. In him, we find our hope. ●



SCAN TO
LEARN ABOUT
AUTHOR ANN
M. GARRIDO

Reflect

*Are my eyes open to the small signs of God's work
in the world, or am I too distracted to notice?*

A shoot shall sprout from
the stump of Jesse, and
from his roots a bud shall
blossom.

ISAIAH 11:1



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.

Pastor: Fr. Gilbert Tairo, CSSp

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

Office Hours:

Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Secretary: Gladys Hampton

St. Michael's Catholic School

Email: smcswm@sbcglobal.net

Website: stmichaelwm.com

Facebook: 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

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

Joanne Smith
Ken Thomas

Shelley Pugh
Ginger Wilkinson

Phillip Wray
Donna McAlister
Kevin Meyers

Parish Council Members

Mary Jane Flowers (President)
Ross Hensley (Vice President)
Margaret Henson (Secretary)
Andy Horton

Bill Buckley
Beth Aureli
Joanne Smith
Carol Burdison

Jo Zachary
Lisa Schafer
Tony Bell
Claude Hunt

Eucharistic Adoration

St. Michael

Every Tuesday–11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Saturday–before the Vigil Mass

4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart, Crawfordsville,

Friday–11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



MASS SCHEDULE

DEC 8 ●

MONDAY / 8:00AM
& 5:30 PM

IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION

Holy Day of Obligation

St Michael

DEC 12

FRIDAY /8:00 AM
6:00PM

OUR LADY DE
GUADALUPE

8:00am – St Michael

6:00pm – Sacred Heart



DEC 24

WEDNESDAY / 5:00PM

CHRISTMAS EVE

Children's Mass

St Michael

7:00PM

CHRISTMAS EVE

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

Sacred Heart

10:00PM

CHRISTMAS EVE

"Midnight Mass"

St Michael

DEC 25 ●

THURSDAY /10:30AM

CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Day of Obligation

St Michael

DEC 31

WEDNESDAY / 7:00PM &
10:00 PM

NEW YEAR'S EVE

7:00 pm– Sacred Heart

10:00 pm– St Michael

JAN 1 ●

THURSDAY / 10:30AM

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Holy Day of Obligation

St Michael

WE HAVE NEW GAMES!!



Bingo is played in the school cafeteria on Tuesdays at 7pm. Doors open at 6pm.

Scan for the latest Bingo Information

We now have two Jackpots for \$1,000 currently at 47 & 53 numbers called
Raffle is up to \$ 1,550



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MASS

8:00 AM – ST. MICHAEL
6:00 PM – SACRED HEART



MISA DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE

8:00 AM – SAN MIGUEL 6:00 PM –
SAGRADO CORAZÓN



Donations for
**POINSETTIAS AND
CHRISTMAS TREES
ARE APPRECIATED**

Envelopes are available in
the vestibule if you would
like to contribute.



Thank you for
your donations to
the Good Neighbor
Center.

Your generosity was very much
appreciated.

S	T	N	J	L	C	H	X	C	R
L	Z	N	O	E	P	S	H	C	J
E	I	V	E	E	S	R	K	Y	A
G	E	C	S	V	I	U	I	V	U
N	R	O	C	S	D	H	S	K	C
A	J	H	T	E	R	A	Z	A	N
M	N	M	P	R	A	Y	E	R	S
Q	A	A	G	A	X	D	O	D	T
S	A	G	Y	R	A	M	O	N	A
S	F	S	B	Q	E	E	C	G	R



ADVENT
ANGELS
CHRISTMAS
GOD
JESUS
JOSEPH
LOVE
MARY
NAZARETH
PRAYER
STAR



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Mass in honor of the Immaculate
Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary



MONDAY, DECEMBER 8
8:00 AM
& 5:30 PM



INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN

DÍA DE PRECEPTO

Misa en honor de la Inmaculada
Concepción de la Santísima Virgen María

LUNES, 8 DE DICIEMBRE
8:00 AM
Y 5:30 PM



The Advent / Lenten altar cloths
were donated by

**Ginger & Dan
Wilkinson**

*In loving memory of Ginger's parents,
Virginia and Bill Forman*



Advent Confessions



Thursday, December 11
St. Michael Catholic Church
6:00 pm

Friday, December 12
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
12:00–1:00 pm

There will be four priests available
for confessions, including one
Spanish-speaking priest.

All families are encouraged to attend.



CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Sacred Heart & St. Michael Churches



Sunday, December 14

**Following the 10:30 AM Mass
at St. Michael**

The Parish will provide ham and turkey.

Families are asked to bring a dish according to your last name:



A-H	Dessert
I-S	Side (vegetables, cornbread dressing, etc.)
T-Z	Appetizer or Salad

**We will also celebrate Father Gilbert's
birthday (December 15)**

Cake & a birthday card will be provided

ALL ARE WELCOME — PLEASE PLAN TO COME!



CONVIVIO DE NAVIDAD

Sagrado Corazón y San Miguel



Domingo, 14 de diciembre

Después de la Misa de 10:30 AM en San Miguel



A-H	Postre
I-S	Plato (verduras, aderezo de maíz, etc.)
T-Z	Entrante o Ensalada

**Santa Claus y la Sra. Claus
estarán a allí**

**Tómense fotos familiares
festivas**

**También celebraremos
el cumpleaños del
Padre Gilbert
(15 de diciembre)**



TODOS SON BIENVENIDOS — POR FAVOR PLANEE ASUSTIR!

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

St. Michael Catholic School



Spaghetti Supper through the years ...



'That's Italian!'

This year's annual St. Michael's School Spaghetti Supper and Carnival, beginning from 5 to 8 p.m., Oct. 25, promises an evening of games, food and fun with an Italian theme. Advertising their school's fundraising event are, from left, Joseph Thompson, Michael Baioni, Brian Baioni and Samantha Piani. Tickets are available from any student or at the school.

Photo by Larry Rich Kennedy



Annual Supper To Be Served On Wednesday

The annual Italian spaghetti supper, sponsored by the Infant

ANNUAL EVENT — Mrs. Phil Turner (left) and Mrs. W. H. Dolanbury are serving as co-chairmen of the spaghetti supper which will be served Feb. 22 by members of the Infant of Prague Guild of St. Michael's Catholic Church. Posters are being placed around to serve as reminders of the annual event and money-making project of the guild.



MEALING PREPARATIONS — Mrs. Louis Fratelli (left) and Mrs. Roy Clegg are busy preparing for the spaghetti supper which will be served tomorrow evening

from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. at St. Michael's school cafeteria. The supper is sponsored annually by the Infant of Prague Guild of St. Michael's Catholic Church.



A beloved tradition at St. Michael's, our annual Spaghetti Supper has brought together families, friends, parishioners, and our school community for generations.

From the early days of hand-cranked pasta and giant simmering pots...

To colorful carnivals, outdoor dining under the lights, dedicated kitchen crews, and the joyful faces of volunteers and children—

every year tells a story of faith, fellowship, and Italian-style fun.



These cherished photos capture the heart of our community.

Together, they built a tradition that continues to bless our parish and school today.

Hard-working cooks, smiling volunteers, parish families gathered in love

...and memories that continue to

bless our parish and school.





Thank you to everyone—past and present—who has helped make the Spaghetti Supper a cherished part of St. Michael's history—past, present, and future.
A Tradition of Faith, Food & Fellowship

School Happenings...





CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Sunday, December 21
After the 10:30 a.m. Mass

We will be decorating the church for Christmas and we need everyone's help—men, women, and children are all welcome!

Thank you for sharing your time and talent!



CONFESIONES DE ADVIENTO

Preparación para la Navidad



JUEVES, 11 DE DICIEMBRE

San Miguel | 6:00 pm

VIERNES, 12 DE DICIEMBRE

Sagrado Corazón | 12:00–1:00 pm

- 🕯️ Habrá 4 sacerdotes disponibles
- 🕯️ Uno de ellos habla español
- 🕯️ Se invita a todas las familias a asistir.

DECORACIÓN N NAVIDÑA DE LA IGLESIA

Domingo, 21 de diciembre
Después de la misa de 10:30 a.m.



**Vamos a decorar la iglesia
para la Navidad y
necesitamos la ayuda de
todos los feligreses —
hombres, mujeres
y niños.**



**¡Tu colaboración es muy importante
y será muy apreciada!**



PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

December 13th–14th.

Paper ballots will be passed around. You will have a few minutes to mark your votes.

Only select 4 individuals.

Thanks to those who agreed to be on the ballot.



	December 13, 2025	December 14, 2025
Lector	Suzy McAuley	Carlyle Telesford
Linens	Lisa Schafer	
Communion	Shelley Pugh	Melissa Morphis
	Margie McCain	Jessica Galtelli
	Sandy Goldsby Williford	Katie Reese



Parish Organizations



- ❖ Infant of Prague Guild: meetings are held quarterly in the school cafeteria. Watch here for announcements.
- ❖ Knights of Columbus business meeting 1st Sundays at 7:00 P.M.
- ❖ Men's Bible Study on Sundays at 6:00 p.m. at Tony Bell's House. Please call Ken Thomas for more information, 901-674-1497.
- ❖ Finance Council meeting Thursday, Dec. 18th at 5 pm.
- ❖ Parish Council meeting Thursday, Dec. 18th at 6:15pm.
- ❖ 1st Sunday Sacred Heart Brunch December 7th, after Mass
- ❖ 2nd Sunday St. Michael Brunch December 14th, after Mass - PC

LITURGY SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday	December	6	9:00 am 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	MSGR Bernard Malone† Adoration Allen Creel†
Sunday	December	7	8:30 am 10:30 am	Fr. Chrsipine Jumanne† Dolores Goche†
Monday	December	8	8:00 am & 5:30 pm Immaculate Conception	
Tuesday	December	9	6:00 pm	Wilhelmi Stambuli†
Wednesday	December	10	8:00 am 5:30 pm	Gloria Britton† Felix & Rose Balmaz†
Thursday	December	11	8:00 am	Dorothy Barnes†
Friday	December	12	8:00 am	David & Ann James†
Saturday	December	13	4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Adoration Eugene Klug† (Anniv)
Sunday	December	14	8:30 am 10:30 am	Sr Christopher† Gloria Britton†



REMEMBER IN PRAYER



Carla Sanderson, Kathleen Alparo, Baby Arabella, Pat Hooper, 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, Carol Burdison, Mary Margaret Riley, Will Hutcherson, Mandi Tacker, Matthew Bain, Edna Alpuente, Joan McCarty, Jane Rice, Neil Sponer, Peggy Mengarelli, Tracey Tyrone Cox, Grace Pulliam, Alaina Goldsby, Nancy Jackson, Janet Long, Danny Foster, 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:

November 30, 2025 St. Michael \$2,970.00

Sacred Heart \$969.00

Dear Padre,

Do non-Catholics go to heaven?

Yes, they do, because of the grace of God at work in his people. To suggest otherwise would seem to imply that Catholics somehow have a “golden ticket,” or some kind of right that simply does not exist.

The Incarnation of Jesus healed the division between heaven and earth, a division established by the “sin of Adam” and confirmed by our own lives of sin. Through his passion, death, and resurrection, all has been restored to the manner that the Father first envisioned through his Creation. The division was between humanity and divinity, not between religious practices and divinity. Catholics believe and celebrate that God accepts all people of a good heart and a good spirit. God is not blinded by the labels that sometimes blind his people to the bigger reality.

When Catholics, or people of any religion, proclaim exclusivity and specialness, particularly when it concerns eternal life, all people should be very cautious about what they assume. To assume a certain type of arrogance—to yourself and to your belief and life of faith—that excludes others or separates another as “not one of us” simply has no place in the kingdom of God. ●



PASCAL HUOT / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday

December 8
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Gn 3:9–15, 20
Eph 1:3–6, 11–12
Lk 1:26–38

Tuesday

December 9
Advent Weekday
Is 40:1–11
Mt 18:12–14

Wednesday

December 10
Advent Weekday
Is 40:25–31
Mt 11:28–30

Thursday

December 11
Advent Weekday
Is 41:13–20
Mt 11:11–15

Friday

December 12
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Zec 2:14–17
or Rv 11:19a;
12:1–6a, 10ab
Lk 1:26–38 or
Lk 1:39–47

Saturday

December 13
St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Sir 48:1–4, 9–11
Mt 17:9a, 10–13

Sunday

December 14
Third Sunday of Advent
Is 35:1–6a, 10
Jas 5:7–10
Mt 11:2–11

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question
and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



INOLAS NUÑEZ LC / CATHOLICA

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

With the light and the strength of the Holy Spirit, let us build a Church founded on God's love, a sign of unity, a missionary Church that opens its arms to the world, proclaims the word, allows itself to be made “restless” by history, and becomes a haven of harmony for humanity.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025