



God of Justice, God of Mercy

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Life is not fair. Even though we know this, we expect God to be fair, which may be what irks so many about the Parable of the Lost Son. There is a part of our skewed human nature that agrees with the older son in the story. It certainly seems that the younger son was able to have his cake and eat it too, while the older son could only sit by and watch, missing out on the devil-may-care part of life. It didn't seem fair, and the older son said so.

The point of the story does seem to be that God is both just and merciful, but if ever one of those virtues seems to give way to the other, then, from God's perspective, divine mercy always trumps worldly justice. We,

however, think that's not fair. We grow suspect of deathbed conversions, worried that the person is trying to have life both ways. But do we give thought to the suffering such a life without God might entail? The humiliation and near starvation of the younger son as he lived his self-indulgent life?

We think we want God to be fair, but do we really?

Reflect

Does my life seem unfair? More fair or less fair compared with others?

In C.S. Lewis' novel, *Till We Have Faces*, one character asks another if the gods are just, to which is replied, "Oh, child, pray that they are not!" Do we really want to be treated with justice, getting exactly what we deserve and no more?

Or do we want to let God be God and be treated with mercy? ●



"Now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

LUKE 15:32

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

411 N. Missouri St, West Memphis, AR 72301

Sacred Heart - Crawfordsville, AR.

Mission Church 216 S. Main Street

Fr. Gilbert Tairo, C&Sp, Pastor

Church Office:

410 Pine Street

870-733-1212

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

westmemphiscatholic@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tue 8:00 am -5:00 pm, Wed-Fri 8:00 am-Noon, Closed Mondays

Patsy Fletcher, Church Secretary (cell: 901-647-1402)

School: 405 N. Missouri Street, West Memphis, AR 72301

870-735-1730

<mailto:smcswm@sbcglobal.net> Web Page: stmichaelwm.com

Find Saint Michael School on Facebook: facebook.com/wmsmcs/

Principal: Michael Beauregard, Ed.D.

Grades PreK3-3rd

Parish Religion Education Director: Libby Burroughs

PRE Wednesday 5:30 p.m. Grades K-12

Parish Council Members

Mary Jane Flowers (President)

Ross Hensley (Vice-President)

Margaret Henson (Secretary)

Bobby Hinze

Andy Horton

Carol Burdison

Jo Zachary

Joanne Smith

Bill Buckley

Beth Aureli

Lisa Schafer

Sandy Young

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION:

March 23, 2025 St. Michael \$1,942.00

Sacred Heart \$880.00

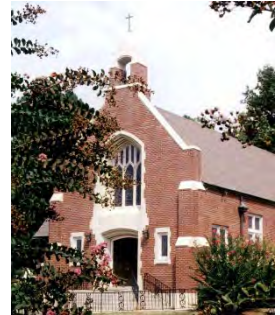
Eucharistic Adoration

St. Michael Every Tuesday,
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart, Crawfordsville,
Every Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Every Saturday, before the Vigil Mass
5:30 to 6:30 p.m.



St. Mary of the Lake Church
626 Horseshoe Circle
Horseshoe Lake, AR 72348
Sunday Vigil – Saturday 4 pm
Fr. Gilbert will hear confessions at St.
Mary's of the Lake at 3 pm on Saturday,
April 12th.

Mass Times at our Sister Churches



St. Francis of Assisi Church
621 S. Washington St.
Forrest City, AR 72335
Sunday 12:15 pm
Tuesday, Thursday 12:00 pm
Eucharistic Adoration Thursday,
11:30 am

Baptism: Parents desiring Baptism for their children must be registered parishioners of St. Michael or Sacred Heart for at least 2 years prior to the Baptism date. Baptism dates will be finalized only after consultation with the Pastor. Attendance of a Baptismal preparation class is required. Please call the church office at 870-733-1212 to schedule an appointment.



Marriage Preparation: Those considering marriage need to notify the parish priest of their intention to marry at least six months prior to their intended wedding date.



Wedding dates will be finalized only after consultation with the priest. Attendance of an approved marriage preparation program is required.



Bingo and RAFFLE! Every Tuesday!

A GREAT and FUN way to support our school!

St. Michael's School Cafeteria

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Games begin at 7:00 p.m.

All proceeds given to St. Michael's School!

**Bingo Jackpot for \$1000
in 58 numbers.
And \$200 after 58!**

We have added a Special Raffle each week!
**With the purchase of at least the minimum (\$15) bingo package
you can pay \$1 more to enter the raffle for a chance at over
\$2,500!**



Scan for the
latest Bingo
Information

P R E

- ❖ Parish Religious Education is held on Wednesday evenings beginning with Mass at 5:30 pm.
- ❖ Congratulations again to our seven PRE students who were confirmed last weekend! Thanks to all who played a role in making the day so special, especially our PRE staff and teachers.



*Bishop Taylor and Fr. Gilbert pose with our
2025 Confirmation Class.*



Stations of the Cross

Are being held at St. Michael's every Friday at 6:00 pm. Please consider volunteering to serve as a reader of a station in the coming weeks. Sign up on the sheets in the vestibule of St. Michael's or contact the church office.

After the service, please join us in the school cafeteria for a small Lenten Meal compliments of the Knights of Columbus and Infant of Prague Guild.

School Happenings

- ✓ The halls were quiet, and the playground seemed a bit lonely this past week; however, that will all change when the students return on Monday.
- ✓ Parent teacher conference will be held next Friday, April 4th, from 2 – 5:30 pm. Students will be dismissed at 1:30 pm, and aftercare will be available until 5:30 pm.
- ✓ It's almost time for our annual Field Day! Mark your calendars now for Friday, April 25th. Our Dr. Suess themed field day activities will start at 9:00 am. Our spring musical, *Go Fish*, will be held in the gym at 1:00 pm. Dismissal will be 1:30 pm. Aftercare will NOT be available.

Right: Ms. Doyle's 3rd Grade prepared bar graphs, pictographs and tally graphs using Skittles. From their smiles, it seems that some may have been consumed!



Above: On the last day of school, Mrs. Ginny's 1st Graders played a game of Squishy Land, where students can practice their phonics/reading/ vocabulary skills.



HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

Thursday: 7 pm Mass St. Michael's
(no morning Mass)
Friday: 3 pm Stations of the Cross, St. Michael's
Friday: 7 pm Good Friday Service, St. Michael's
Saturday: 6:30 pm Easter Vigil Mass, St. Michael's
Sunday: 8 am Mass, Sacred Heart
Sunday: 10 am Mass, St. Michael's

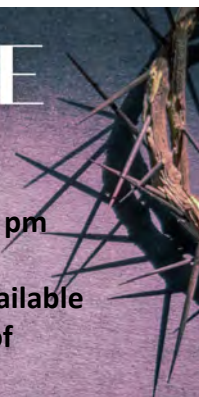


PENANCE SERVICE

**Thursday, April 10th, 6 pm
at St. Michael's.**

**Several priests will be available
for the Sacrament of
Reconciliation.**

**Fr. Gilbert will hear Confessions
at Sacred Heart on Friday,
April 11th from 12 - 1pm.**



Donations for New Sacred Vessels

We have started a fund to purchase new sacred vessels for both St. Michael's and Sacred Heart Churches. We plan to buy two chalices and matching ciborium for St. Michael. For Sacred Heart we have identified the need for one chalice and matching ciborium. If you care to donate, envelopes are available in the back of church. Any memorials or honorariums will be published in the bulletin once we have purchased and received them.



	April 5, 2025	April 6, 2025
Lector	Bonnie Waller	Melanie Beyer
Linens	Diana Thompson	
Communion	Margie McCain	Gladys Hampton
	Shelley Pugh	Bert Jenkins
	Kathy Klug	Melissa Morphis

Parish Organizations



- ◆ Infant of Prague Guild: the next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, June 7th, in the school cafeteria.
 - ◆ 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.
 - ◆ Women on Wednesday (WOW!) bible study on Wednesdays after 8:00 am Mass. Call Becky at 901-652-2390 for information.
 - ◆ Finance Council meets every 3rd Thursday at 5:30 P.M.
 - ◆ Parish Council meets every 3rd Thursday at 6:00 P.M.
 - ◆ 1st Sunday Sacred Heart Brunch April 6th, after Mass
 - ◆ 2nd Sunday St. Michael Brunch April 13th, after Mass
- Infant of Prague Guild

LITURGY SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday	March	29	5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Adoration Joyce Hemby †
Sunday	March	30	8:00 am 10:00 am	Michael Durmeier † and Georgia Durmier † Anniv.
Monday	March	31	NO MASS	
Tuesday	April	1	6:00 pm	Betty Guiltner †
Wednesday	April	2	8:00 am 5:30 pm	Clem Kordsmeier † Betty Guiltner †
Thursday	April	3	8:00 am	Chantal McPherson †
Friday	April	4	8:00 am	Mike † and Michael † Burroughs
Saturday	April	5	9:00 am 6:30 pm	MSGR Bernard Malone † Betty Guiltner †
Sunday	April	6	8:00 am 10:00 am	Chantal McPherson †



REMEMBER IN PRAYER



Terry Mullins, Donald Turlich, Yancy Tindall, Vickey Stanford, John Baioni, Louis Pitts, 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, Bobby Cassidy, Leroy England, Gloria Anderson, Cindy Dabbs, Juan Perez, Jr., Dorothy Barnes, Lillie Clark, Eric Densford, Joan White, Tina Imboden, David & Ann James, Sung Sam Lee, Kay Loney, Lucille Marconi, Johnny McMullin, Sandra Thorne, 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.

Dear Padre,

***Is it OK if I receive holy Communion more than once a day?
Part of my routine is to go to early morning Mass in my parish,
even on days I know I'm going to another Mass, like a wedding
or funeral, or sometimes another Mass for that day.***

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that by the very nature of what the Eucharist intends and celebrates, those who participate in the great mystery of our faith should “receive the Lord’s Body” (1388). In other words, reception of holy Communion is strongly recommended and is understood as the ordinary practice for all who participate in the Mass. Proper preparation and disposition are presumed as both necessary and important.

In response to a specific “dubium” or question about this practice and expectation, in 1984 the Pontifical Commission on the Code of Canon Law issued an authentic interpretation of the Church’s understanding of this practice. It mandated that “the faithful may receive the Holy Eucharist only a second time on the same day” (CCC, 1388, footnote 222). This directive is intended to establish the general norm and practice for the reception of holy Communion. Your practice, as a result of this norm, is directly representative of the understanding of the Church. ●

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

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
March 31	April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5	April 6
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Fifth Sunday of Lent
Is 65:17–21	Ez 47:1–9, 12	Is 49:8–15	Ex 32:7–14	Wis 2:1a, 12–22	Jer 11:18–20	Is 43:16–21
Jn 4:43–54	Jn 5:1–16	Jn 5:17–30	Jn 5:31–47	Jn 7:1–2, 10, 25–30	Jn 7:40–53	Phil 3:8–14
						Jn 8:1–11



THE PRODIGAL SON, PETER PAUL RUBENS / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

There was a pop theatre production...about the prodigal son.... [The son writes a letter]: “Father, I have repented, I want to come back home.... If you want to welcome me, please put a white handkerchief in the window.” And when he was near home...what did he see? Not one handkerchief: it was full of white handkerchiefs, the windows, everywhere!

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 27, 2022