



"We saw his star at its rising and
have come to do him homage."

MATTHEW 2:2

Following Jesus Without a Star to Guide Us

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

"We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage" (Matthew 2:2) describes the spark that sent the Magi on their journey. Something unusual in the sky, interpreted as a sign of something wonderful—in response, they changed direction in their lives and devoted themselves to a completely different path. As wonderful as it might well be, a special star in the heavens is not the ordinary experience of how we learn to follow the Lord or discern his will. If only there could be a sign in God's universe for each of us, beckoning us forward, clarifying what we need to do, setting down the path that needs to be followed. Perhaps life would be much simpler. Or perhaps not?

Would it truly be less complicated if everything were made clear and certain? Is the manifestation of God's grace and blessings confined to the straight and narrow, or can we also experience God in the chaos—"in the weeds," so to speak. Human experience seems to suggest that life is more "gray" than "black and white." There is real grace in the journey, in making mistakes, even in choosing something that is incomplete. Thankfully, God's grace does not need perfection to be powerful. We can know and follow God's will for us in the ordinary moments of day-to-day living. We do not need the extraordinary or the dramatic. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

How can I resolve to look for God in the unplanned, the unexpected, the interruptions?

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

Donna McAlister
Kevin Meyers

Shelley Pugh
Joanne Smith
Ken Thomas

Ginger Wilkinson
Phillip Wray

Parish Council Members

Mary Jane Flowers (President)
Margaret Henson (Secretary)
Beth Aureli
Tony Bell

Patsy Fletcher
Claude Hunt
Ricardo Ledezma
Tim Marconi

Lisa Schafer
Joanne Smith
Lauren Wray
Jo Zachary



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

ST MICHAEL

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"*



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 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.



**CHRISTMAS
DECORATION REMOVAL**

Saturday, January 10
10:00 AM

Help us take down the Christmas decorations.
Many hands make light work!

Thank you!

BACK TO SCHOOL
After Christmas Break

Teachers Return
Monday,
January 5

Students Return
Tuesday,
January 6

WELCOME BACK!

Special 8 AM Mass to Celebrate the Epiphany



**SPAGHETTI
SAUCE**

FOR SALE
\$20 A QUART

PROCEEDS GO TO
**ST. MICHAEL'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Knights of Columbus
— 52nd Annual —
OYSTER SUPPER

February 4, 2026
4:30 PM — 8:00 PM

VFW Post 5225
406 S. Avalon
West Memphis, AR

\$50 Per Ticket

Tickets available at the church and school offices.
For more information, contact Tony Bell.

December

BRUNCH



Happy Birthday
Father Gilbert



Thank You

*for your generous donations
for Christmas flowers and decorations.*



Donations were made in memory of:

James & Frances McGinnis

Bob & Betty Fletcher

Tommy & Judy Shearer

Lucy & Bud Greenwood

Grandparents

Jo & Herb Bell

Ann & Bear Tulhs

Deceased members of Ashley family

Shirley Britton

Kathy Higgins

Frank Paulk

Andrea Paulk

Robert Cassidy

Frank & Juanita Alpe

Frank B Alpe

Christy Marconi

Wayne Todd Jr.

Donterio Wheeler

Elizabeth Todd

Elizabeth Shock

Jerry McAlister & Lisa McAlister Cissell

Josephine & Herb Bell

John Halling

Jim & Mary Noll

Louis Baioni Ecole & Marianna Baioni

Primo & Elsie Baioni

Marvin Thompson

Adrian Pirani

Margaret Cissell

Kenneth Cissell

Jacob & Catherine Crabtree

Scott & Tommy Goldsby

Richard Williford

Danny Alpuente

Charles Alpuente

Keith Alpuente

James Aluente

Mary Elizabeth & Parker Craig

Anita Regina Miller

Ernest Miller, Sr.

Donations were made in honor of:

Lillie Cassidy Clark

Dorothy Halling

Have You Prayed the Rosary Today?

Take a few quiet moments to reflect,
give thanks, and draw closer to God
through the prayers of the Blessed Mother.

*"Pray the Rosary every day in order
to obtain peace for the world."*

— Our Lady of Fatima



Mass Intentions

Mass intentions may be offered for
the repose of the soul of a deceased loved
one, for healing, a special occasion or a
special intention for yourself,
a family member or friend.

Please fill out an envelope located in
the vestibule or contact the parish
office for available dates.

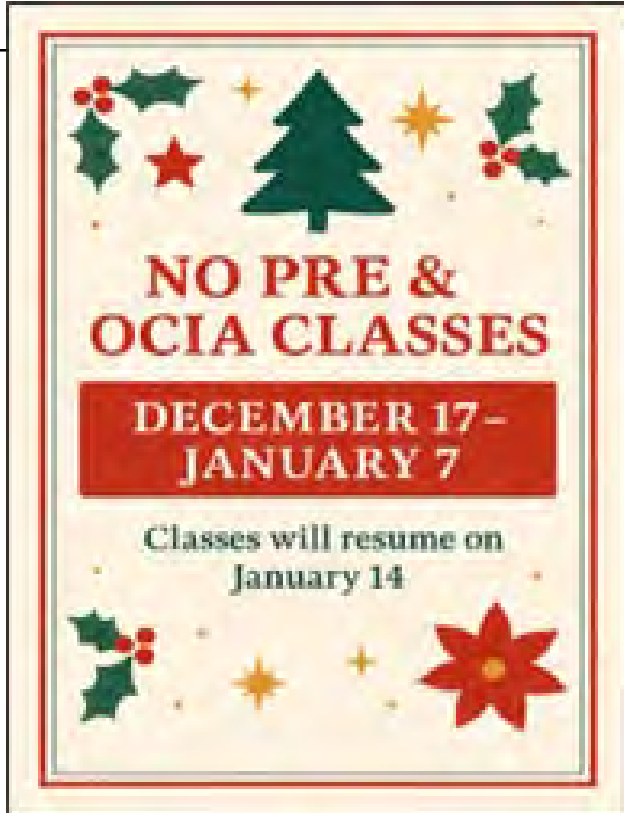
A \$10 stipend is customary for each Mass.



Epiphany — Tuesday, January 6th
Masses at St. Michael's at
8:00 am and 6:00 pm



Wise men still seek him



**NO PRE &
OCIA CLASSES**

**DECEMBER 17-
JANUARY 7**

Classes will resume on
January 14

*The Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Little Rock
invites you to the annual Mass for Life*



MASS FOR LIFE

JANUARY 18, 2026

PRAY FOR LEGAL PROTECTION FOR EVERY UNBORN CHILD

PRAY TO END ABORTION

CATHEDRAL OF ST. ANDREW
617 S. LOUISIANA STREET, LITTLE ROCK

- 11:20 -11:50 a.m. ADORATION & ROSARY FOR LIFE
- 12:05 p.m. MASS WITH BISHOP TAYLOR
- AFTER MASS FREE TACOS!
Grab-and-go to make it easy to attend March for Life!
- 2 p.m. MARCH FOR LIFE sponsored by Arkansas Right to Life
(along Capitol Avenue to the steps of the Arkansas State Capitol)

**Questions? Contact the Respect Life Office
at 501-664-0340, ext. 326.**



Happy New Year!

from

ST MICHAEL AND SACRED HEART

Wishing you a blessed and joyful 2026

May God's protection and love be with you in the year ahead.

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 49 & 56 numbers called
Raffle is up to \$ 1,550**



The Catholic Diocese of Little Rock is committed to protecting children and young people. If you are aware of abuse or have been abused by Clerics, Church volunteers, or Church workers, please contact the State of Arkansas Hotline for Crimes against Children at 1-800-482-5964 and the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs, 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 at (501) 664-0340, ext. 425. Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207.



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, 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 para Asuntos Canónicos, 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) 664-0340, ext. 425. Diócesis de Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207.



	January 10, 2026	January 11, 2026
Lector	Kevin Meyers	Tony Bell
Linens	Diana Thompson	
Communion	Margie McCain	Jessica Galtelli
	Sandy Goldsby Williford	Katie Reese
	Shelley Pugh	Melissa Morphis



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.
- ❖ Finance Council meeting Thursday, Jan. 15th at 5:00 pm.
- ❖ Parish Council meeting Thursday, Jan. 15th at 6:15 pm.
- ❖ 1st Sunday Sacred Heart Brunch January 4th, after Mass
- ❖ 2nd Sunday St. Michael Brunch January 11th, after Mass - Guild



LITURGY SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday	January	3	9:00 am 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	MSGR Bernard Malone† Adoration Anita Miller†
Sunday	January	4	8:30 am 10:30 am	Kathleen Loney Isabel Lngay†
Monday	January	5	NO MASS	
Tuesday	January	6	8:00 am 6:00 pm	Sr. Christopher Flowers, Osb† Dorothy Foster
Wednesday	January	7	10:00 pm	Alfredo Nevarez & Ofelia Nunes†
Thursday	January	8	10:30 am	Cathline Crabtree†
Friday	January	9	8:00 am	Bess Jenkins †
Saturday	January	10	4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Adoration Lucille Marconi†
Sunday	January	11	8:30 am 10:30 am	Sr. Christopher Flowers, Osb† Katy Boone†



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:

December 28, 2025 St. Michael \$9,921.00

Sacred Heart \$844.00

Dear Padre,

I recently lost my husband of sixty years. I prayed for him through his four-year illness. Since he has died, I cannot pray. Any advice for me?

My heartfelt condolences on your profound loss. When someone we love dies, a part of us dies too. Sometimes, the trauma is so severe that it can even affect our relationship with God.

Psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross identified five stages of grief. In the denial stage, some people can't accept the reality of the death. It becomes too much to handle. In the anger stage, some may question their belief in God—especially if their prayer requests (such as, “Please God, if you heal my loved one, I will...”) weren't successful in the bargaining stage. People in the depression stage feel overwhelmed by the reality of the loss and may not always feel like connecting with others—even with God in prayer. However, in the acceptance stage, emotions stabilize, and a person comes to terms with their new reality. Nothing makes up for the absence of a loved one, but people manage to cope and live on.

It's because you loved so deeply that the loss feels so deep. God accepts you completely; God understands how you feel. He wants you to be at peace and live life fully. Our compassionate God yearns to help console you and offer assistance in your healing process until you can embrace him again in prayer. 🕊

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Let us resolve to bring [God's] love everywhere, never forgetting that each of our sisters and brothers is a dwelling place of God and that his presence is manifested above all in the little ones, in the poor and the suffering, who ask us to be thoughtful and compassionate Christians.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 25, 2025



YANDRY FERNÁNDEZ PERDOMO / CATHOPIC

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday

January 5
St. John Neumann,
Bishop
1 Jn 3:22–4:6
Mt 4:12–17, 23–25

Tuesday

January 6
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:7–10
Mk 6:34–44

Wednesday

January 7
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:11–18
Mk 6:45–52

Thursday

January 8
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19–5:4
Lk 4:14–22a

Friday

January 9
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:5–13
Lk 5:12–16

Saturday

January 10
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:14–21
Jn 3:22–30

Sunday

January 11
The Baptism
of the Lord
Is 42:1–4, 6–7
Acts 10:34–38
Mt 3:13–17