



Behold the Lamb of God!

ANN M. GARRIDO

Of the many names Scripture provides to help us ponder the mystery of Jesus, one of the most intriguing is the name that John the Baptist offers at the opening of today's gospel: "Behold the Lamb of God!" (John 1:29).

Scripture scholars debate what John means here. Is he alluding to the Passover lamb—that unblemished lamb whose blood the enslaved Israelites were to post over their doorways? The angel of death knew to "pass over" these homes. Perhaps John was saying that by Jesus' blood, the people would be freed from death.

Or was John thinking about the guilt offerings mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures when priests offered animal sacrifices to God as a way of seeking the removal of their sins? Leviticus mentions use of a scapegoat who would carry the sins of the people away into the desert. (See Leviticus 20-28.) Could John have understood that Jesus would bear the sins of the world?

Or did John have in mind the great constellation Aries, the ram, considered the prince of the stars of the sky, the center from whom all the other constellations were mapped in ancient times? Perhaps John was pointing out that Jesus was the center around whom heaven and earth revolve, like the ruling lamb mentioned in the Book of Revelation.

Today at Mass, when the host is elevated and you hear John's words again—"Behold the Lamb of God!"—take a moment to savor these words anew. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

Which understanding of the "Lamb of God" resonates with me?

"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."

JOHN 1:29



**ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Hwy 62/412 & 49 Tekakwitha Dr.
Cherokee Village, Arkansas 72529

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office	Diocese of Little Rock
257-2850	www.dolr.org
Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri, 9:30 – 2:30	Closed Wednesdays
Mailing Address	Arkansas Catholic Newspaper
P.O. Box 970	www.arkansascatholic.org
Cherokee Village, AR 72525	
Rectory: (870) 257-4456	St. Michael's CASA #7215
St. Michael's Email:	stmichaelsoffice22@yahoo.com
St. Michael's Website:	http://stmichaelsvcatholicchurch.org

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Amal Raju Lourduswamy Punganoor
Parish Secretary: Rhonda Bystry
Office Email: stmichaelsoffice22@yahoo.com
Bookkeeper: Rose Brandenburg
Email: stmichaelcv@yahoo.com

Holy Mass Schedule: May God Bless You

Holy Mass 9:00 a.m.: Sunday, Monday, Thursday, Friday & 1st Saturday
Evening Holy Mass 6:00 p.m.: Wednesday
Vigil Holy Mass 4:00 pm.: Saturday
Confession 3:00 p.m.: 3:45 p.m. Saturday, 1st Friday & 1st Saturday of the month after 9 a.m. Holy Mass or by Appointment.
30 minutes prior to every Holy Mass, we pray the Holy Rosary
For more information, please contact the Church Office.

Sacraments

ENCOUNTERS WITH THE RISEN CHRIST !

The Sacrament of reconciliation is offered on First Friday and First Saturday after the 9 am Mass, Saturdays at 3 pm, and most any reasonable time by appointment. Your identity need not be known; your anonymity is respected.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is strongly encouraged by those seriously ill, the elderly, or those facing surgery. This sacrament of Our Lord's healing & comfort is usually available on the last weekend each month after every Mass, or by appointment.

The Sacrament of Marriage is a wonderful commitment to life and love, and the Church welcomes those who are called to this noble vocation. Christian marriage involves a couple's serious deliberation, prayer, and planning. The diocesan policy requires all engaged couples to contact the pastor at least 6 months before setting any wedding date.

The Sacrament of Baptism presupposes sufficient instruction according to the age of the candidate, and a desire to practice the faith. Expectant parents are encouraged to ask the Pastor for the Church's blessing for a safe and healthy delivery. Call the Church Office to schedule instruction and the service.

PARISH MINISTRIES

(Area code is 870 unless otherwise noted)

Adoration Chapel Coordinators

Rose Brandenburg (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)	847-5018
Anne Kootz (4 p.m. - 9 p.m.)	847-1985

Altar Society

Rose Brandenburg Financial Secretary	257-2850
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B-I-N-G-O

Isabelle Wiest	994-2243
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Columbarium Committee

Jim Wege (Kevin Templet, Kevin Langellier)	847-3396
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Holy Family Cemetery

Bernie Brandenburg	994-2744
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Knights of Columbus

Buddy Kootz (Grand Knight)	847-0264
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Compassion Ministry

Pat Such	847-7224
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Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers - Buddy Kootz	847-0264
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Eucharistic Ministers

Parish Secretary	257-2850
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Communion to Nursing Homes

Nancy Paluck	421-9383
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Communion to Sick & Homebound

Maureen Matselboba	(941) 356-0333
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Lectors

Teri Taylor	847-2112
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Music Director

Rose Brandenburg	847-5018
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Sacristans

Matt Winston	257-2857
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Ushers

Joann Helfert	920-344-0365
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Finance Council Committee

Michael Gagne (FC-Chair) (PC)	751-3419
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Bernie Brandenburg (FC)	994-2744
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Rhonda Bystry (FC)	994-2177
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Maureen Fortuna (FC)	966-3367
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Parish Council Committee

Buddy Kootz (PC-Chair)	847-0264
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Rose Brandenburg (PC)	847-5018
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Alison Munroe (PC)	847-7707
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Joyce Speir (PC)	266-3586
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Lori Templet (PC)	856-2261
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Isabelle Wiest (PC)	994-2243
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Prayer Chain

Kathy Gagne	751-3420
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pray4me70@att.net	
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Religious Education C.C.D

Lori Templet	856-2261
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ltemplet2507@yahoo.com	
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St. Vincent de Paul Society

Nancy Paluck	421-9383
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Help Line

	257-3448
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Altar Flower Decorator

Pam MacAulay	847-6742
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NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to St. Michael's! We're glad you're here. Please introduce yourself to Fr. Amal, and register by completing a registration form, then kindly return it to the Church Office. Get involved! Volunteer! Let us share with each other our God-given talents, love, and service to our neighbors. R.C.I.A. Adult Education.

Saturday/ January 17th – St. Anthony, Abbot
 4 p.m. Vigil Mass : All staff at St. Michael's
 by : People of the Parish
 * 2nd collection – Altar Society

Sunday/ January 18th – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
 9 a.m. Holy Mass : Pamela MacAulay
 by : Marcella Birckhead
 2nd collection – Altar Society

Monday/ January 19th –
 9 a.m. Holy Mass : KayLynn Rodenbeck
 by: Marcella Birckhead
 Parish Council meeting 6 pm

Tuesday/ January 20th – St. Fabian, Pope and St. Sebastian
 No Holy Mass :

Wednesday / January 21st – St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
 6 p.m. Holy Mass : All Volunteers at St. Michael's
 by: People of the Parish

Thursday / January 22nd -Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn Children
 9 a.m. Holy Mass: Capt. Thomas Beardslee
 by: Dean Beardslee
 • Bingo at 6 pm doors open at 5 pm

Friday/ January 23rd – St. Vincent and St. Marianne Cope
 9 a.m. Holy Mass : All Staff .
 by: People of the Parish

Saturday/ January 24th – St. Francis de Sales, Bishop/Doctor
 4 p.m. Vigil Mass : Marilyn Hadley †
 by: Caren Wallman
 2nd collection – Black and Indian Mission Office

Sunday/ January 25th – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
 9 a.m. Holy Mass : Edgar Loren Beardslee †
 by : Dean Beardslee
 2nd collection – Black and Indian Mission Office

*BINGO is every Thursday at 6 pm with doors opening at 5 pm.
 Also: every 1st Sunday of the month at 1 pm with doors opening at noon. *Knights of Columbus manage the food concessions at the Bingo.

Thought for the week

Ordinary Season
2nd Sun-A


 "The Blood Of the Lamb Was not placed Upon the Doorposts, (Exodus 12: 7) But Upon the Souls of the Faithful".
 St. John Chrysostom
 God Bless You All

"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."

-John 1:29

▲ ▲ + ▲ ▲ + ▲ ▲

"You were ransomed... with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish."

- 1 Peter 1:18-19

Ref:- ▲ ▲ ○ ▲ ▲
 Ex. 12:5,13; 29:38.
 1 Cor 5:7; Eph.5:2,

▲ Wishing you a Blessed Week ▲



Collection Report
 January 10th and 11th , 2026

Main collection : \$ 1831.00

Maintenance Fund : \$ 752.00

Many thanks to you for your sacrificial giving!

Could you Not watch one hour with me ?

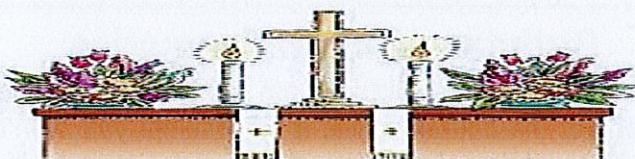

 ADORATION CHAPEL SIGN-UP

Available Adoration.

No hours available at this time

Rose, (870) 847-5018, or

Anne, (870) 847-19859



God Bless the Donors and their Intentions

Altar Flowers this week are generously provided by: People of the Parish.

Tabernacle Roses this week are generously provided by: People of the Parish

2026 Flower Schedules

Flower schedules for 2026 are available. This is a special way to honor or remember a loved one or special event in your life. Please, sign up on the schedule located on the bulletin board in the vestibule and then drop a check by the parish secretary office so it can be recorded that you have paid. You need to pay when signing up or put a check under the office door the weekend you have selected. Thank you.

Youth Group Night

Every Wednesday after 6 pm Holy Mass, our youth of the parish are holding a youth night. They are served a meal and then teaching each night. Several offers have been made for preparing meals. If you would like to provide a meal for them on Wednesdays, there will be a sign up sheet in the vestibule. We prepare for about 15. For more information contact Lori Templet or Greta Ishmael.

Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Council Meeting

Monday January 19, 2026 in the library at 6 p.m.

2026 Mass Intentions

If you would like to have a special Holy Mass said this year, please stop by the parish secretary office. So we can check for availability on the date you would prefer. There is a \$10 stipend per each intention. This is a blessed way to honor or remember a loved one, friend or special occasion in your life or loved one's.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

If we miss your birthday or anniversary please contact the church office. It is possible you didn't give us all the information when you registered with the church or our records need to be updated. We appreciate you letting us know so we can correct the church records. We never want to miss anyone on their special dates. Blessings -



Fr. Daniel Brandenburg, Bernie Brandenburg, Robert Butner, Nell Kihm, Mary Welch, Jack Heuser, Crystal Hawkins, Joyce Speir, Michael Gagne, Isabelle Wiest, Michael & Martha DeCoster, Larry Allen, Steve Allen, JoAnn Colwell, Georgia Harris, Dan Such, Dawn Logan, Mary Lee, Jim Whorl, Sister Joy Wege, Tim and Betty Eash, Jimmy White, Joan Schulz, Gail Demarest, Nico Woode, Pat Kimball, Marcella Birckhead, Michael Reddick, Gerald and Carol Metty, Darren Bates, Maryann Barber, Martin and Amy Moriarty, Maria Gerrah, Colleen Royal, Cecilia Cefalu, Darrell and Elizabeth Beason, Doug and Tammy Wortham.

Nursing Home: Ruth Kingle, Chuck Wolff and KayLynn Rodenbeck

We wish you many blessings on your Birthday!

- ▲ January 20th — KayLynn Rodenbeck
- ▲ January 22nd — Isabelle Wiest
- ▲ January 23rd — Dennis Burton
- ▲ January 23rd — JoAnn Helfert



We wish you many blessings on your Anniversary!

No Anniversaries this week

Holy Family Catholic Cemetery
Burial Plots
Contact: Bernie Brandenburg

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**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
CHARITY, UNITY,
FRATERNITY

St. John Neumann Council 6969
Grand Knight Buddy Kootz (870) 847-0264
Social and Potluck Meeting
2nd Monday of the month
Rosary 5:30 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.
Officers Meeting
Last Monday of the month
Rosary 5:30 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.

Fourth Degree

Patriotic Degree of the order
FN Michael Gagne (870) 751-3419
Quarterly Business Meeting
2nd Saturday of the month

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Mailing Address
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Hardy, AR 72542
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St. Michael's Parish Hall
Thursday 6 p.m.
Door's Open at 5 p.m.
1st Sunday of the month
1 p.m. Doors Open at 12 p.m.

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Adoration after Friday Mass

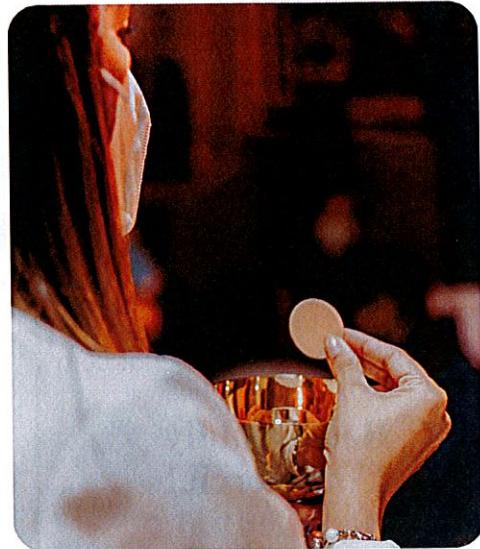
churchoffice@stmaryshsb.org
Horseshoe Bend AR 72512
(870) 670-5896

Dear Padre,

I thought only priests and bishops should distribute Holy Communion at Mass. In my parish, the priest allows laypeople to help him, and I thought laypeople couldn't because our hands are not consecrated.

You're not the only person with this concern, so thank you for taking the time to write. The distribution of holy Communion has nothing to do with "consecrated hands." Ordinary ministers of Communion include bishops and priests, as you rightly identify, but also deacons and installed acolytes. Of the four ordinary ministers, only the hands of bishops and priests are consecrated. Laypeople are extraordinary ministers and are installed to help the priest so that everyone can receive holy Communion without long lines or wearying the (sometimes elderly) priest. Most extraordinary ministers of Communion approach this ministry very prayerfully.

Your question brings up the subject of the full participation of the laity in the Mass, which is part of a highly contentious theological discussion on social media. There is an unfortunate conflict between so-called "traditional Catholics" and "Vatican II Catholics" or, as they are often misrepresented, "Novus Ordo" Catholics. Some Catholics are led to believe that the "new Mass" is not authentic, even though it has been the ordinary form of the Mass for well over fifty years—that is, since the authoritative Second Vatican Council. Many good and faithful people suffer with doubt and anxiety as a result of this confusion. ●



THAIS ORRICO / CATHOPIC

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 19	January 20	January 21	January 22	January 23	January 24	January 25
Weekday	Weekday	St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children	Weekday	St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Sm 15:16–23	1 Sm 16:1–13	1 Sm 17:32–33, 37, 40–51	1 Sm 18:6–9; 19:1–7	1 Sm 24:3–21	Is 8:23–9:3	1 Cor 1:10–13, 17
Mk 2:18–22	Mk 2:23–28	Mk 3:1–6	Mk 3:7–12	Mk 3:13–19	2 Sm 1:1–4, 11–12, 19, 23–27	Mt 4:12–23 or 4:12–17



FRANCISCO XAVIER ESPINOZA / CATHOPIC

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Ours is a time marked by a growing search for spirituality, particularly evident in young people, who are longing for authentic relationships and guides in life. Hence, it is important that the Christian community be farsighted in discerning the challenges of today's world and in nurturing the desire for faith present in the heart of every man and woman.

MESSAGE TO SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS, ROME, MAY 28, 2025