

And raising his eyes  
toward his disciples  
he said: "Blessed are  
you who are poor, for  
the kingdom of God  
is yours."

LUKE 6:20

## It's All about the Roots

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**here we put down our spiritual roots matters. For some, the old adage "Bloom where you are planted" may offer wisdom; however, the prophet Jeremiah reminds us that if we find ourselves planted in a lava bed or a salty and empty land, we won't do much blooming. We'll be no more than a shriveled, barren bush. So, where we plant our inner spiritual lives makes a difference.

This week's gospel may seem to sap all the joy out of life. Woe if you have money to spend, a banquet to feast on, fun and laughter to dress up your days. Woe to you, it seems to caution, because when you die, the opposite will be your lot. What's so wrong, we wonder, with having cash in our pockets, food on our tables, and a good time once in a while? Life can be downright dreary otherwise.

The answer, of course, is that there is nothing wrong with any of that—unless that's where we put down our roots. In other words, if that's what life is all about, sooner or later, we are likely to discover we have become a barren bush standing in lava waste. Jesus didn't come to suck the joy out of life but to give us a heads up on how to live a life that is full. He hoped we might avoid the lure that can become a wasteland. He hoped we might become "like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream" (Jeremiah 17:8). ●

### Reflect

***Where are your roots? Are you growing and thriving?***

# ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Parish Office:** Diocese of Little Rock  
(870) 257-2850 [www.dolr.org](http://www.dolr.org)  
**Mon - Fri, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**  
**Mailing Address:** Arkansas Catholic Newspaper  
P.O. Box 970 [www.arkansascatholic.org](http://www.arkansascatholic.org)  
Cherokee Village, AR 72525  
**Rectory:** (870) 257-4456 **St. Michael's CASA #7215**  
**St. Michael's Email:** [stmichaelsoffice22@yahoo.com](mailto:stmichaelsoffice22@yahoo.com)  
**St. Michael's Website:** <http://stmichaelcv.org>

## PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Fr. Amal Raju Lourduswamy Punganoor  
**Parish Secretary:** Rhonda Bystry  
**Office Email:** [stmichaelsoffice22@yahoo.com](mailto:stmichaelsoffice22@yahoo.com)  
**Bookkeeper:** Rose Brandenburg  
**Email:** [stmichaelcv@yahoo.com](mailto:stmichaelcv@yahoo.com)

## Holy Mass Schedule : May God Bless You

**Holy Mass 9:00 a.m.:** Sunday, Monday, Thursday, Friday  
& 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday  
**Evening Holy Mass 6:00 p.m.:** Wednesday  
**Vigil Holy Mass 4:00 p.m.:** Saturday  
**Confession 3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.** Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> Friday &  
1<sup>st</sup> 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.



## ENCOUNTERS WITH THE RISEN CHRIST!

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** is offered the 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 for 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  
of 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

Joyce Speir 266-3586

### B-I-N-G-O

Isabelle Wiest 994-2243

### Columbarium Committee

Jim Wege (Kevin Templet, Kevin Langellier) 847-3396

### Holy Family cemetery

Bernie Brandenburg 994-2744

### Knights of Columbus

Buddy Kootz (Grand Knight) 847-0264

### Compassion Ministry

Pat Such 847-7224

### Liturgical Ministries

**Altar Servers -** Buddy Kootz 847-0264

**Eucharistic Ministers -** Cheryl Walsh (501) 412-0644

### Communion to Nursing Homes

Nancy Paluck 421-9383

### Communion to Sick & Homebound

Maureen Matselboba (941) 356-0333

**Lectors -** Teri Taylor 847-2112

**Music -** Rose Brandenburg 847-5018

**Sacristans -** Matt Winston 257-2857

**Ushers -** Pat Such 847-7224

### Finance Council Committee

**Michael Gagne (FC-Chair), (PC)** 751-3419

Bernie Brandenburg (FC) 994-2744

Rhonda Bystry (FC) 994-2177

Maureen Fortuna (FC) 966-3367

### Parish Council Committee

**Buddy Kootz (PC-Chair)** 847-0264

Rose Brandenburg (PC) 847-5018

Alison Munroe (PC) 847-7707

Joyce Speir (PC) 266-3586

Lori Templet (PC) 856-2261

Isabelle Wiest (PC) 994-2243

### Prayer Chain

Kathy Gagne [pray4me70@att.net](mailto:pray4me70@att.net) 751-3420

### Religious Education C.C.D

Lori Templet [ltemplet2507@yahoo.com](mailto:ltemplet2507@yahoo.com) 856-2261

### St. Vincent dePaul

Help Line 257-3448

### Altar / Flower Decorator

Pam MacAulay 847-6742

## 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.**

Holy Family Catholic Cemetery  
Burial Plots

Contact: Bernie Brandenburg

St. Michael's Columbarium  
Payment Plans Available  
Contact: Jim Wege



**St. Michael's Parish Hall**  
Thursday 6 p.m.  
Door's Open at 5 p.m.  
1st Sunday of the month  
1:30 p.m. Doors Open at 12

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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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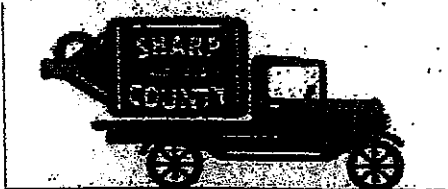
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**1002 First Street  
Horseshoe Bend AR. 72512  
(870) 670-5896**

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Adoration after Friday Mass**

**[churchoffice@stmaryshsb.org](mailto:churchoffice@stmaryshsb.org)  
Horseshoe Bend AR. 72512  
(870) 670-5896**

# Dear Padre,

*I have always been an “every Sunday” Catholic. My problem is that holy Communion doesn’t feel that special. I believe that it’s the Body and Blood of Christ, but receiving feels “routine.” Sometimes I’m even distracted while receiving. Help?*

Do you remember the story of the transfiguration of Jesus? (See Luke 9:28–36.) Jesus took his three special disciples, Peter, James, and John, up on the mountain, and while Jesus was praying, what did they do? They fell asleep! In the very presence of Jesus, their Lord and Master.

Human beings cannot maintain feelings of awe and ecstasy for long periods of time. We would be exhausted. Feelings don’t always reflect the specialness of the moment. That is why good habits are so important. Feelings may elude us, but we can fall back on the habit of Sunday Mass. Just as two contented, long-married people don’t feel like they did on their honeymoon, they still quietly enjoy the habit of each other’s company.

Lent is coming soon. You might consider shaking up your routine a little. Attend one weekday Mass. Prepare for Sunday Mass by reading the Scriptures for that Sunday and praying the entrance antiphon or the psalm. If you don’t already, consider volunteering as a choir member, lector, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion. Meanwhile, continue to receive holy Communion, giving thanks that it is readily available, and perhaps offer a prayer for communities where Communion every Sunday is not possible. ●

*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*



REIMER / SHUTTERSTOCK

## 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*.



STUDIO ROMANTIC / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Jesus says [his people] are blessed because they are poor. In what sense? In the sense that Jesus’ disciples do not find their joy in money, power, or other material goods; but in the gifts they receive every day from God: life, creation, brothers and sisters, and so on. These are gifts of life.*

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 13, 2022

### Monday

February 17  
Weekday  
Gn 4:1–15, 25  
Mk 8:11–13

### Tuesday

February 18  
Weekday  
Gn 6:5–8; 7:1–5, 10  
Mk 8:14–21

### Wednesday

February 19  
Weekday  
Gn 8:6–13, 20–22  
Mk 8:22–26

### Thursday

February 20  
Weekday  
Gn 9:1–13  
Mk 8:27–33

### Friday

February 21  
Weekday  
Gn 11:1–9  
Mk 8:34–9:1

### Saturday

February 22  
*The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle*  
1 Pt 5:1–4  
Mt 16:13–19

### Sunday

February 23  
*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
1 Sm 26:2, 7–9, 12–13, 22–23  
1 Cor 15:45–49  
Lk 6:27–38