



Who Do You Say That I Am?

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" An easy answer if you just report what other people say and what you have heard. No commitment. No revelation. No risk. But it all changes when the question is more to the point: "Who do *you* say that I am?" Tell me what you know, not what you heard. The silence is almost deafening. Vulnerability, not just anonymous reporting, is required in the asked-for response. No surprise—it is Peter who answers. Never one to hide his emotions or edit his thoughts, it is Peter who reveals what he knows, perhaps even what he is unsure of, perhaps the truth that he only hopes for but has not yet declared. "You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God" (Matthew 16:16).

Jesus responds with a prayer of blessing; the apostles, on the other hand, remain silent. Although we are very familiar with Peter's assent of faith, his declaration was almost unheard-of or unexpected from a first-century Jewish man. It was dangerous to identify someone as Messiah. It was blasphemous to name someone as the Son of the Living God. Yet, in faith and humility, Peter made the declaration and, in the naming, entrusted his life, his hope, and all that he believed firmly into the hands of Jesus. This was no simple act. This was no ordinary day. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY



Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the
Messiah, the Son of the Living God."

MATTHEW 16:16

Reflect

How would you answer if Jesus asked you, "Who do you say that I am?" (He is asking you!)

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://stmichaelscvcatholicchurch.org>

PARISH STAFF

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

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

Jason Sabado (Grand Knight) 412-477-7946

Compassion Ministry

Pat Such 847-7224

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers - Buddy Kootz 847-0264

Eucharistic Ministers

Parish Secretary 257-2850

Communion to Nursing Homes

Nancy Paluck 421-9383

Communion to Sick & Homebound

Maureen Matselboba (941) 356-0333

Lectors

Teri Taylor 847-2112

Music Director

Rose Brandenburg 847-5018

Sacristans

Matt Winston 257-2857

Ushers

Joann Helfert 920-344-0365

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 751-3420

pray4me70@att.net

Religious Education C.C.D

Lori Templet 856-2261

lttemplet2507@yahoo.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Nancy Paluck 421-9383

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. R.C.I.A. Adult Education.

 Mass Intentions

Saturday / August 22nd – The Queenship of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

4 p.m. Vigil Mass: Joe and Maria Wilson †

by: People of the parish

Anointing of the Sick after Vigil Mass

Sunday/ August 23rd – Twenty-First Sunday

Ordinary Time

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Mary Welch †

by: Ron Martin and family

Anointing of the Sick after Holy Mass

Monday/August 24th – St. Bartholomew, Apostle

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Rhett Carter

by: Roger and Betsy Edmonds

Tuesday/ August 25th – St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest

No Holy Mass

Wednesday/August 26th –

6 p.m. Holy Mass : Anne Kootz

by : Buddy Kootz

Thursday /August 27th – St. Monica

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Robert Belec †

by: People of the parish

***Parish finance meeting 6 pm in the library**

***Bingo doors open at 4:30 pm games at 6 pm**

Friday/ August 28th – St. Augustine, Bishop/Doctor

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Joe and Maria Wilson †

by: People of the parish

Saturday / August 29th –The Passion of St. John the Baptist

4 p.m. Vigil Mass: Marty and Irene †

by: People of the parish

Sunday/ August 30th – Twenty-Second Sunday

Ordinary Time

**9 a.m. Holy Mass : All deceased Knights and
their spouses †**

by: St. Michael's Knights of Columbus

KC Officers meeting Monday August 31st

The Rosary at 5 pm and meeting 5:30 pm

Thought
for the week

21st Sun- A

**The Marks of the Church:
ONE-Holy-Catholic-Apostolic**

"You are Peter 

and upon this rock

I will build my Church

and the gates of the

netherworld shall not

prevail against it."

- Mt.16:18.



**The Church
is not merely
A Human
Organization**

**She is
The Body
Of Christ
(1Cor.12:27)
The People
Of God,
And
The Family
Gathered
By God**



Wishing you a Blessed Week



Collection Report

August 15th and August 16th 2026

Main Collection \$ 2818.00

Catholic Home Missions \$543.00

Assumption collection \$595.00

Thank you for your sacrificial giving !

Could you Not watch one hour with me ?



ADORATION CHAPEL SIGN-UP

Available Adoration

Wednesday 12:00 am to 1:00 pm

Rose, (870) 847-5018, or

Anne, (870) 847-1985



God Bless the Donors and their Intentions

**Altar Flowers are generously provided
by: Jim Wege in memory of his wife,
Ariela Wege.**

**Tabernacle Roses are generously
provided by: Jim Wege in memory of
his wife, Ariela Wege.**

**** Food Pantry collection will be the weekend of September 5th and 6th.**

Religious Education Registration

Mark your calendars for registration for religious education registration for adults and children. It will be on **Saturday and Sunday August 22-23 before and after Holy Mass**. Please **sign up your children or any adult** at one of these dates so the material can be ordered and be here in time for the classes when they start. Classes will begin in middle of September. For more information contact Lori Templet Ph# 225-717-0238 or email : ltemplet2507@yahoo.com

Congratulations !

Jason Sabado for being the new **Grand Knight** for the Knights of Columbus.! Jason is married to Annette they met while he was serving as an instructor at Fort Chaffee. His in-laws are Richard and Norma Frisk they both also stay active with the Knights and volunteer in our church. Jason has held many positions and offices with the Knights of Columbus and during his military service, he is well qualified to be a leader. After he and Annette retired from their active-duty military status they were able to retire to Cherokee Village to be near Annette's parents. We are blessed to have Jason and Annette at our church, and we appreciate all that your whole family does here at St. Michael's. .

St. Michael's B-I-N-G-O

30th year Anniversary

Celebration !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Join them on **Sunday September 6th, 2026** for a fun filled afternoon. See the insert in the bulletin this week and on the bulletin boards with all the details.

Doors open at noon and games/sessions start at 1:30 pm.

St. Monica's Prayer group

They meet every 1st Thursday of every month after 9 am Holy Mass to pray for our children to be strong in their faith. Please join us. Meetings are in the church library.



Fr. Daniel Brandenburg, Bernie Brandenburg, Robert Butner, Nell Kihm, Jack Heuser, Crystal Hawkins, Chuck Wolff, Jim Wege, Isabelle Wiest, Michael & Martha DeCoster, Larry Allen, Steve Allen, Georgia Harris, Dan Such, Dawn Logan, Sister Joy Wege, Tim and Betty Eash, Jimmy White, Gail Demarest, Nico Woode, Ray McHugh, Tim Starken, Marcella Birckhead, Michael Reddick, Colleen Royal, Gerald and Carol Metty, Darren Bates, Joseph Huff, Maryann Barber, Cecilia Cefalu, Darrell and Elizabeth Beason, Toni Travline, and Doug and Tammy Wortham.

Nursing Home: Ruth Klinge, KayLynn Rodenbeck and Timothy Huff

We wish you many blessings on your Birthday !

August 22nd – Gale Scholz

August 22nd – BJ Simon

August 24th – Barbara Hawbaker

August 26th – Anne Kootz

August 27th – Donna Boyd

August 27th – Cindy Raith

August 28th – Helen Oberding

August 28th – Gary Keithley



We wish you many blessings on your Anniversary !

♡ **Dennis and Karen Burton** ♡
August 30th – married 51 years

To Learn More About Matrimony

Page 10

Matrimony

The grace of Matrimony which a husband and wife receive to love each other and their children unselfishly comes from the Passion of Christ. They receive the grace to make their love a reflection of the love of Christ for His Bride, the Church, personified in Mary. In the flesh Mary was His Mother, but in the spirit she was His bride. Children, seeing such love in their parents, can more easily learn what love Christ had for them on the Cross.

1. What is the sacrament of Matrimony?

Matrimony is the sacrament by which a baptized man and a baptized woman bind themselves for life in a lawful marriage and receive the grace to discharge their duties.

2. What are the chief duties of husband and wife in the married state?

The chief duties of husband and wife in the married state are to be faithful to each other, and to provide in every way for the welfare of the children God may give them. Married people must learn to love unselfishly, to forget themselves so that they can spend themselves for each other. They surrender themselves to God's plans for marriage to bring children into the world and to care for them and educate them, bring them up morally good and and to grow in God's faith.

3. Why does the bond of the sacrament of Matrimony last until the death of husband or wife?

The bond of the sacrament of Matrimony lasts until the death of husband or wife because *Christ has said: "What therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder."* *Mt 19:6, Mk 10:9*

Love must be permanent or it is not true love. It is not a feeling which comes and goes but a power to give which should be there even when feeling dies out.

4. What is meant by the unity of the sacrament of Matrimony?

By the unity of the sacrament of Matrimony is meant that the husband cannot during the life of his wife have another wife, nor the wife during the life of her husband have another husband.

5. Why is every true marriage between a baptized man and a baptized woman a sacrament?

Every true marriage between a baptized man and a baptized woman is a sacrament, because Christ Himself raised every marriage of this kind to the dignity of a sacrament. In order to love each other the way Christ loves us, husband and wife need special graces. A Christian marriage demands far more love and ability to make sacrifices than does a pagan marriage. That is why Christ made it a sacrament.

Ex: Wedding at Cana *Jn 2:1-11*.

6. Why has the Catholic Church alone the right to make laws regulating the marriages of baptized persons?

The Catholic Church alone has the right to make laws regulating the marriages of baptized persons because the Church alone has authority over the sacraments and over sacred matters affecting baptized persons.

August 23, 2026

7. What authority has the State regarding the marriages of baptized persons?

Regarding the marriages of baptized persons, the State has the authority to make laws concerning their effects that are merely civil.

8. What is necessary to receive the sacrament of Matrimony worthily?

To receive the sacrament of Matrimony worthily it is necessary to be in the state of grace, to know the duties of married life, and to obey the marriage laws of the Church.

9. In whose presence do the laws of the Church require a Catholic to be married?

The laws of the Church require a Catholic to be married in the presence of the parish priest, or the bishop of the diocese, or a priest or deacon delegated by either of them, and before two witnesses.

In so-called marriages before a justice of the peace, even if only one party is a Catholic, there is no marriage. God will not forgive him unless he gives up his sin and is married by a priest. If this is impossible, then the couple ordinarily must separate, even if they have children, since they are not really married and cannot keep on living in sin. The man must support the children, but he cannot live with the woman, since she is not really his wife.

10. What are the chief effects of the sacrament of Matrimony?

The chief effects of the sacrament of Matrimony are: *first*, an increase of sanctifying grace; *second*, the special help of God for husband and wife to love each other faithfully, to bear with each other's faults, and to bring up their children properly. "*The family that prays together, stays together*".

God gives married people special helps to bear the crosses of married life. He even guarantees them all the material things they need (such as food, shelter, etc.) provided they keep His laws in marriage, trust Him, and pray for their needs.

11. What should Catholics do to prepare for a holy and happy marriage?

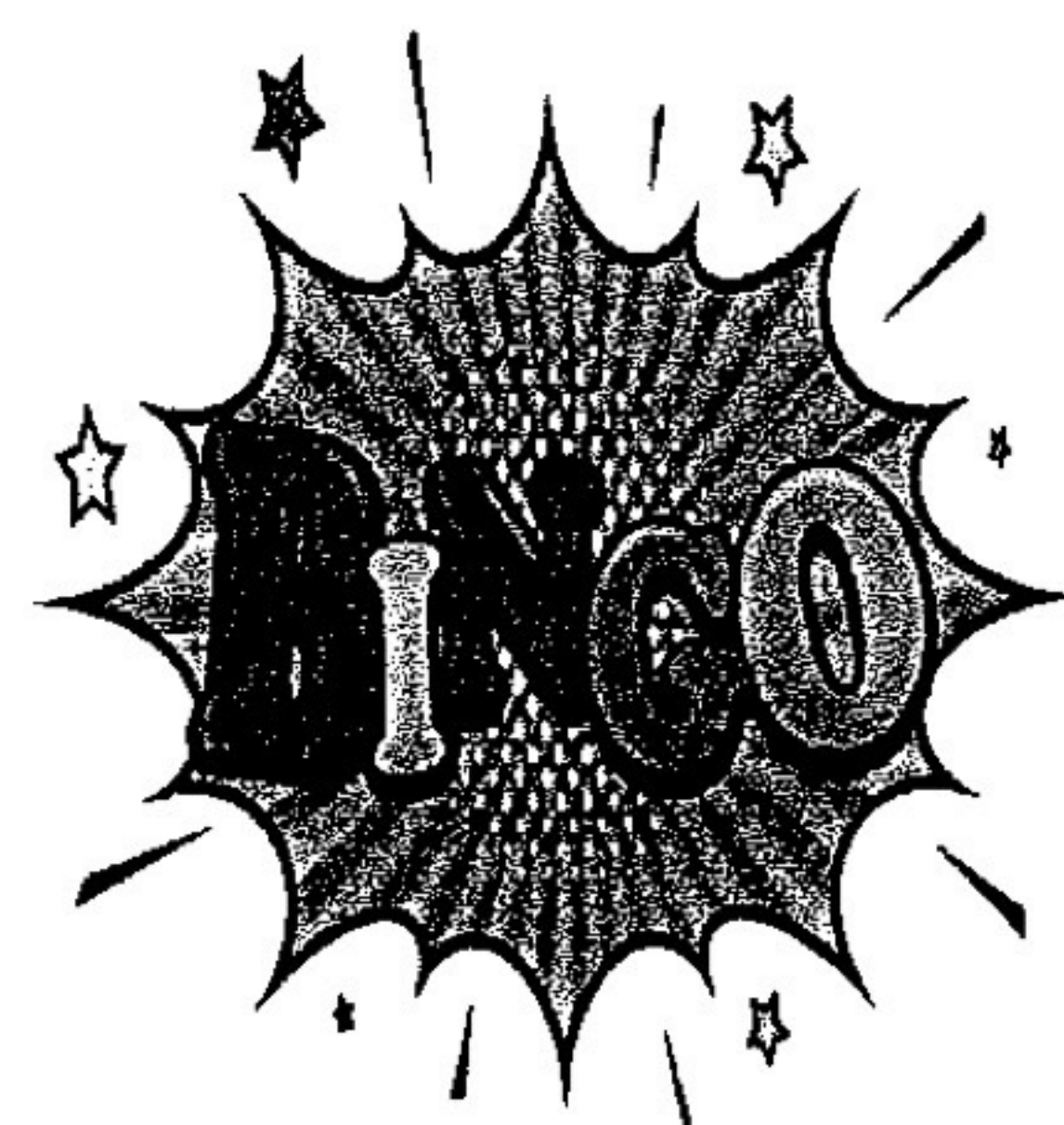
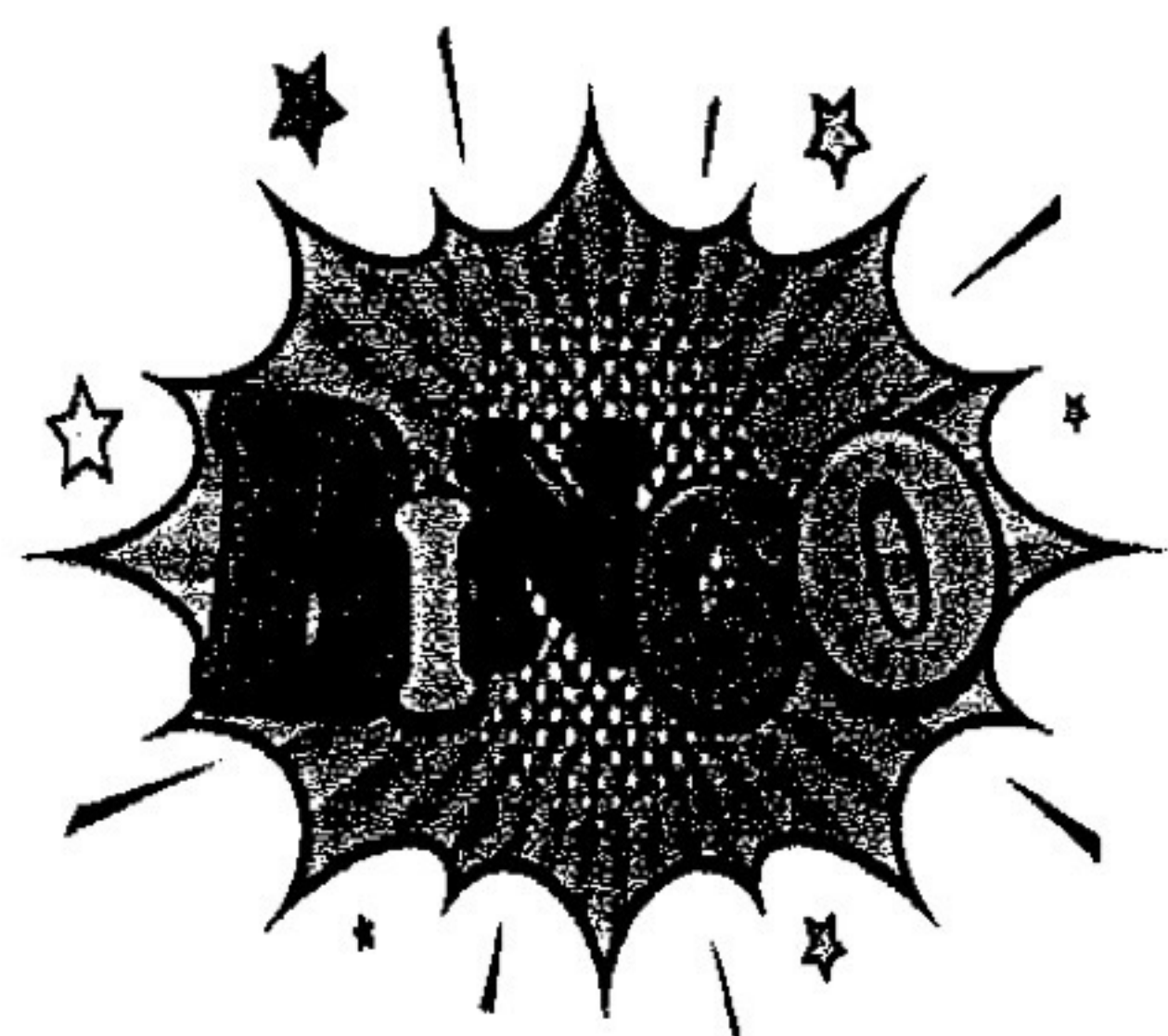
To prepare for a holy and happy marriage, Catholics should: *first*, pray that God may direct their choice; *second*, seek the advice of their parents and confessors; *third*, practice the virtues, especially chastity; *fourth*, frequently receive the sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist.

12. How can Catholics best obtain God's blessing for their marriage?

Catholics can best obtain God's blessing for their marriage by being married at a Nuptial Mass and by receiving Holy Communion devoutly.

ST. MICHAEL'S

BINGO



Celebrating Our

30th Anniversary

Sunday, September 6, 2026

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon
of bingo, prizes, refreshments
and socializing

Doors Open at 12:00 p.m.

Session Starts at 1:30 p.m.

St. Michael's Church 49 Tekakwitha Dr. (Hwy. 412)

(Turn at the Pioneer Auto Auction sign)

Facebook: Bingo-St. Michael's CV

Holy Family Catholic Cemetery
Burial Plots

Contact: Bernie Brandenburg
870-994-2744

St. Michael's Columbarium
Payment Plans Available

Contact: Jim Wege
870-847-3396

St. Michael's Parrish Hall

Thursday 6 p.m.

Doors Open at 4:30 p.m.

1st Sunday of the month

1:30 p.m. Doors open at 12

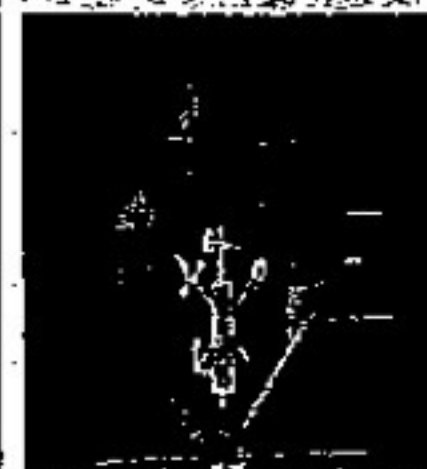
CANYON

C O N S T R U C T I O N

PO Box 295 | Ash Flat, AR 72513

870.994.7472 | CanyonBuilds.com

**Build Boldly
Commercial
Residential
Excavation**



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

St. John Neumann Council 6969

Grand Knight Jason Sabado (412) 415-7946

Social and Potluck Meeting

2nd Monday of the month

Rosary 5:00 p.m. Meeting 5:30 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



"A sincere personal service"



Mortman
Funeral Home

Est. 1888

P.O. Box 678
3079 Highway 62/412 West
Hardy, Arkansas 72542

DONALD MORTMAN, President
(870) 856-5636
www.mortmanfuneralhome.com

Family Owned & Operated

We are third generation
Funeral Directors

with over

130 years of experience

3079 Highway 62/412

Highland, AR 72542

(870) 856-5636

Serving Catholic families in
Northeast Arkansas
since 1945

new beginnings
PREGANACY HELP CENTER

New Beginning

1438 HWY 62/412

Highland, AR. 72542

(870)994-LIFE (5433)

After Hours Hotline

1-800-712-HELP (4357)

TXT Helpline to 313131

Monday — Thursday open

10 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday



**White River
Health**

Caring Beyond Healthcare

195 Hospital Drive

Cherokee Village, AR 72525

870-257-6000

**Tri-County
Funeral Home**

Compassion and Guidance
when needed most

870-856-2705

Physical Address

1540 Highway 62/412

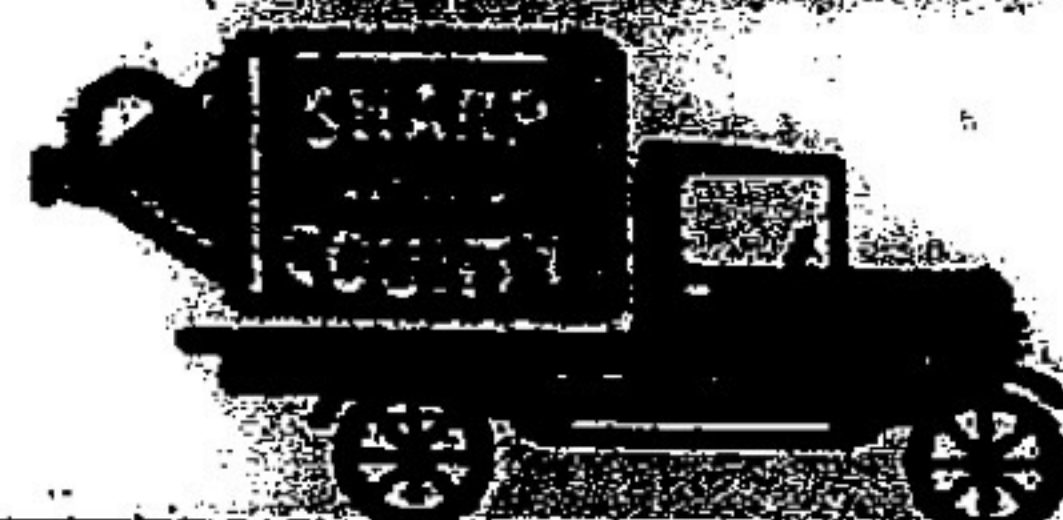
Highland, AR 72542

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 665

Hardy AR. 72542

Only on-site crematory
In Sharp County



BOOTLEGGER

LIFE IS BREWTFUL

(870) 994-BEER (2337)

582 Hwy 62/412

Ash Flat, AR. 72513

BEER-WINE-LIQUOR

ST. MARY OF THE MOUNT — Fr. Amal Raju Lourduswamy Punganoor — Pastor

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

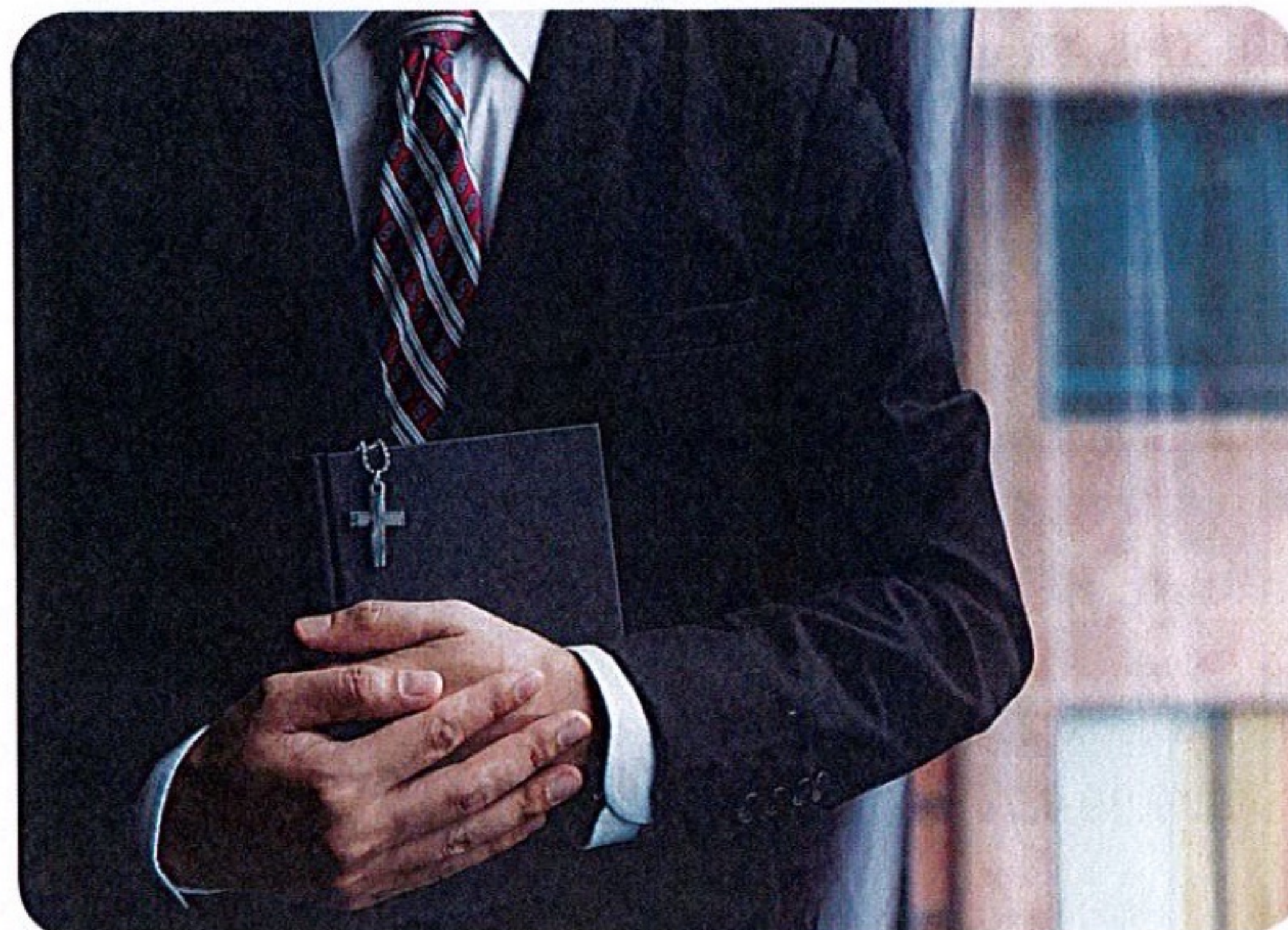
<https://stmaryshsb.org>
Confessions after every Mass
Adoration after Friday Mass

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

Dear Padre,

Can a non-Catholic serve and hold an office in a Catholic parish organization?

According to their knowledge, competence, and position, the Christian faithful have an obligation to assist in the necessary works of the Church and promote the common good of the parish—its worship, its apostolic mission, its charities, the care of its ministers, and its care of the poor. (See *Code of Canon Law*, 222.) In general, canon law and most diocesan regulations stipulate that members of primary decision-making entities must be active, registered Catholics who participate in the sacramental life of the Church. For example, members of a pastoral council must be “in full communion with the Catholic Church” (CCL 512 §1). However, non-Catholics—such as spouses of parishioners or experts in their fields (e.g., finance, law, architecture)—are sometimes invited to lend their skills by serving on advisory boards and committees or in other support roles that are usually in a non-voting capacity. In all cases, the pastor or bishop has the discretion to involve non-Catholics in specific initiatives. For instance, a bishop “can invite as observers to the diocesan synod other ministers or members of churches or ecclesial communities which are not in full communion with the Catholic Church” (CCL, 463 §3). A non-Catholic interested in serving should consult the local priest about available opportunities, based on the norms of a diocese. ●



JUICY FOTO / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

I genuinely hope that our Christian lifestyle will always reflect this fraternal, “Samaritan” spirit—one that is welcoming, courageous, committed, and supportive, rooted in our union with God and our faith in Jesus Christ. Enkindled by this divine love, we will surely be able to give of ourselves for the good of all who suffer, especially our brothers and sisters who are sick, elderly, or afflicted.

**MESSAGE ON WORLD
DAY OF THE SICK,
ROME, FEBRUARY 11,
2026**

The quotations from Pope Leo XIV are printed with permission, copyright © Dicastero per la Comunicazione-Libreria Editrice Vaticana. All rights reserved.

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday

August 24
St. Bartholomew,
Apostle
Rv 21:9b-14
Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday

August 25
Weekday
2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17
Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday

August 26
Weekday
2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18
Mt 23:27-32

Thursday

August 27
St. Monica
1 Cor 1:1-9
Mt 24:42-51

Friday

August 28
St. Augustine, Bishop
and Doctor of the
Church
1 Cor 1:17-25
Mt 25:1-13

Saturday

August 29
The Passion of St.
John the Baptist
1 Cor 1:26-31
Mk 6:17-29

Sunday

August 30
Twenty-second
Sunday in Ordinary
Time
Jer 20:7-9
Rom 12:1-2
Mt 16:21-27