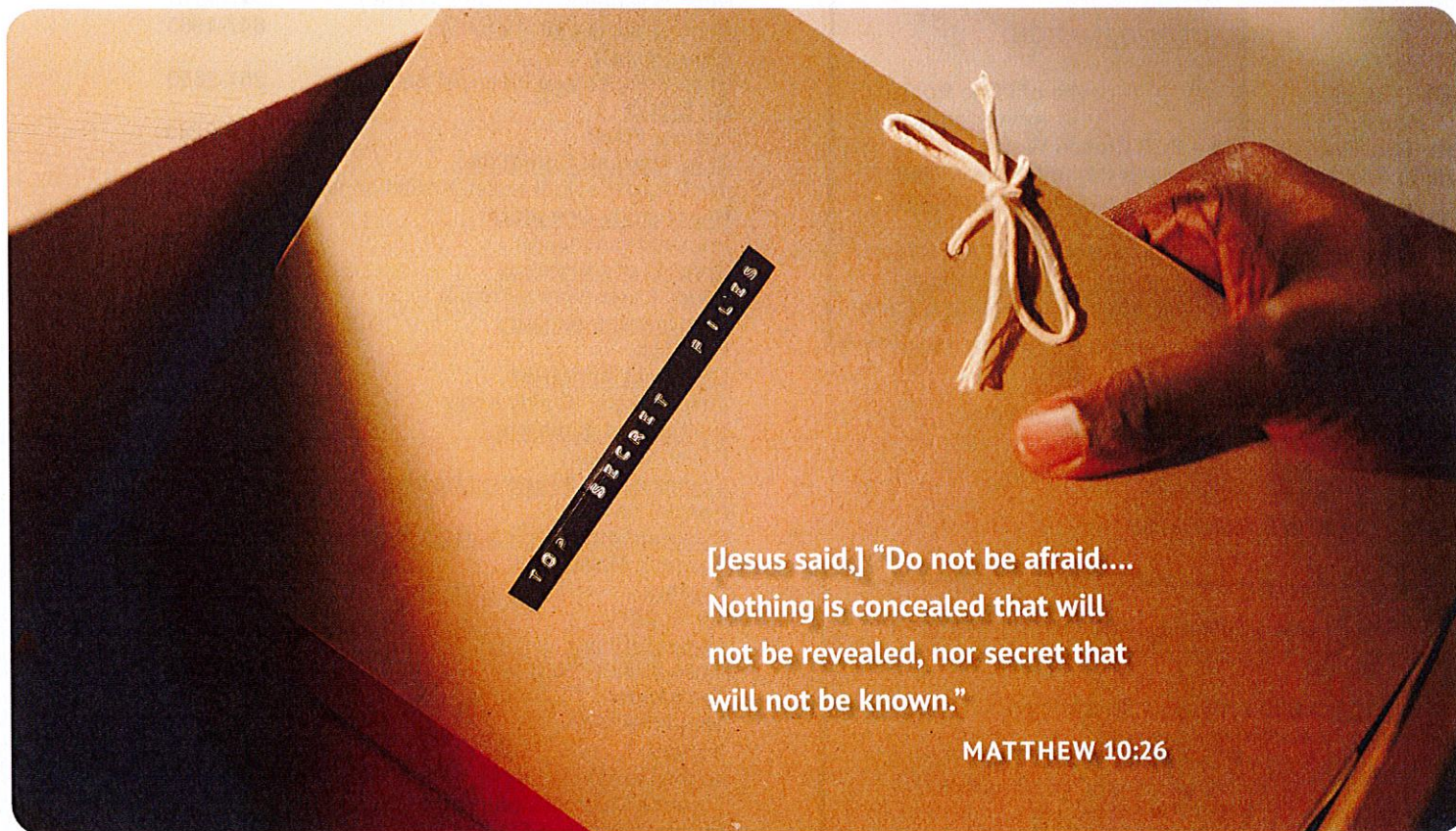




[Jesus said,] "Do not be afraid....
Nothing is concealed that will
not be revealed, nor secret that
will not be known."

MATTHEW 10:26

The Freedom of Letting Go of Secrets

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

Secrets. The disabling fear of discovery. Trying so hard to conceal something that we do not want others to know. Often, we guard secrets closely because we believe we will be embarrassed, punished, or excluded if our secrets are made known.

Sometimes, we hold tightly to secrets because we are ashamed. We keep other secrets because of the dynamics of family life: "We do not share our family business with anyone." All secrets can be difficult to keep—some more than others. Perhaps the most difficult secret to hold is one that we fear defines our personal integrity and authenticity. It is the fear not only of discovery but also of perception: How will I be perceived if this is made known? Will I still be accepted? Or, even more painful: Will I be rejected, and how complete will the rejection be?

The "good news" of the gospel is that "nothing is concealed that will not be revealed" (Matthew 10:26). In other words, there is nothing that can remain tucked away forever. Everything is revealed in one way or another. Gospel grace and freedom result when a person chooses to freely release whatever it is that burdens them, including closely held secrets. It is the ultimate experience of dying to self to claim eternal life. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

What am I afraid to reveal to others? Can I try telling God?

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://stmichaelscvccatholicchurch.org>

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Amal Raju Lourduwamy 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

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

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

ltemplet2507@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.



Saturday / June 20th – Weekday

4 p.m. Vigil Mass : Mary Kocz

by: Kocz Family

*2nd collection – Church in Latin America

Sunday/ June 21st – Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Brad Fortuna †

by: Terry Phelps and Family

***** Happy Father's Day !! *****

*2nd collection –Church in Latin America

Return your baby bottles for the fundraiser

Monday /June 22nd – St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop

St. John Fisher, Bishop and Thomas More, Martyrs

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Garry and Cathy Raikes

by: Bystry Family

Tuesday/ June 23rd – Weekday

No Holy Mass :

Wednesday/ June 24th – The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

6 p.m. Holy Mass : Brian and Kelly Ivy

by: Dean Beardslee

Thursday /June 25th – Weekday

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Ryan Chick †

by: Buddy and Anne Kootz

**Bingo starts at 6 pm doors open at 5 pm

Friday/June 26th –Weekday

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Mary Welch †

by: Ron Martin and Family

Saturday / June 27th – St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop/Doctor

4 p.m. Vigil Mass : Bill Duncan

by: Dean Beardslee

**Anointing of the sick after Mass

**Magnificat Luncheon 11 am until 2 pm in the parish hall

Sunday/ June 28th– Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Bill and Maureen Matselboba

by: The Matselboba Family

**Anointing of the sick after Holy Mass

*St. Monica's prayer group meets 1st Thursdays after 9 am Mass

*Bingo is 1st Sundays of each month and every Thursday night

*Food Pantry collection is every 1st full weekend of each month

Thank you to all our volunteers !!



Ordinary Time: 12th Sun-A

"But The Lord Is With Me. Like a Mighty Champion" Jer.20:11
Jeremiah: 20:10-13
Mt.10:28-33
When you feel cornered, misunderstood, or betrayed—as Jeremiah often was—remember:

- "Do not be Afraid Of those Who Kill The Body," Mt.10:28
- "You Are Worth More Than Many Sparrows" Mt.10:31
- People may criticize you, but they cannot separate you from God's love.
- Difficulties can hurt the body and emotions, but not the soul that remains faithful to Christ.
- God is always with you.

▲ Wishing you a Blessed Week ▲



June 13th and 14th, 2026

Main Collection \$ 2260.00

Maintenance Fund \$679.00

Thank you for your sacrificial giving !

Could you Not watch one hour with me ?

ADORATION CHAPEL SIGN-UP

Available Adoration

Wednesday 11:30 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 Mary Kocz in honor of her special intentions.

Tabernacle Roses are generously provided by: Paulette Montoya in honor of her special intentions.

Knights of Columbus Big Breakfast last Sunday
Thank you to the Knights and to all who supported them.

Magnificat Ladies Luncheon

Magnificat will hold their next luncheon on **Saturday, June 27 from 11 am until 2 pm at St. Michael's Parish Hall.** The speaker for this luncheon is Dell Stiner from Tennessee. Come join us for a day of worship, fellowship and a meal as we end the day to listen to Dell's testimony. We will sell tickets Saturday and Sunday, June 13 & 14 and Saturday and Sunday, June 20 & 21 before and after the Masses. For more information contact Lori Templet 225-717-0238.

Baby Bottle Boomerang Fundraiser

Return your bottle on Father's Day Sunday June 21 2026 with your donation. Please, do not keep any bottles even if you need to return them empty. If you are late returning after June 21st, please drop off at the New Beginnings Center. Thank you.

St. Monica's Group

The next meeting will be on Thursday July 2nd after 9 am Holy Mass in the church library. Please, join them to pray for our children, their spiritual protection and strength in their catholic faith.

Food Pantry

The weekend of July 4th and 5th is the food pantry collection. They are always in need of Pasta meals, canned meats and dried beans and bags of rice or anything that is not way pass the expiration date.

Thank you !

**To all who volunteer here at St. Michael's
We appreciate you all !!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Bingo

Come support our Bingo committee, they work hard to keep the bingo games going and the Knights do with the concessions. It is 1st Sunday of each month and every Thursday weekly.



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 Birkhead, 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 and KayLynn Rodenbeck.

We wish you many blessings on your Birthday!

- June 20th - Rhonda Greenway
- June 20th - Mary Kocz
- June 22nd - Blaise Michael Ishmael
- June 23rd - Mike Gagne
- June 25th - Dan Such



We wish you many blessings on your Anniversary!

- ♥ Eddie and Greta Ishmael on June 20th * 17 years
- ♥ Dan and Angela Munroe on June 24th * 24 years
- ♥ Mark and Shelly Yingling on June 25th * 10 years
- ♥ Michael and Martha DeCoster on June 25th * 27 years
- ♥ Bill and Maureen Mateselboba on June 27th * 62 years

To Learn More About the Sacrifice of the Mass

Part 2

I. The Sacrifice of the Mass

1. What is the Mass?

The Mass is the sacrifice of the New Law in which Christ, through the ministry of the priest, offers Himself to God in an unbloody manner under the appearances of bread and wine. It is a memorial of the Passion, Resurrection and Ascension of our Lord.

2. What is a sacrifice?

A sacrifice is the offering of a victim by a priest to God alone, and the destruction of it in some way to acknowledge that He is the Creator of all things. *Sacrifice* is an action in which we give a gift to God as a sign of our devotion. It shows Him we love Him.

When you give your mother a birthday present, it shows her you love her. She will gladly accept it, not only because she is pleased with the gift itself, but much more because she is pleased with your love which the gift represents. Cain and Abel offered gifts, or sacrifices, to God. God was pleased with Abel's gift and accepted it because the gift represented the love and devotion of Abel's heart. He did not accept Cain's gift because He could see that Cain did not really love Him. A gift offered to God in sacrifice we call a Victim. One who offers sacrifice to God in the name of all the people we call a Priest.

3. Who is the principal priest in every Mass?

The principal priest in every Mass is Jesus Christ, who offers to His heavenly Father, through the ministry of His ordained priest, His body and blood which were sacrificed on the cross.

The perfect sacrifice was that of Christ on the Cross. The PRIEST was the Son of God made man. He was also the VICTIM, since the gift was Himself, His own human life. It cost Him every last drop of His Precious Blood. He gave it to His Father to show Him His love and devotion. As Christ hung on the Cross, every beat of His Sacred Heart said to His Father, "Father, I love You."

The Father was most pleased. He accepted the gift His Son offered Him and showed it by raising Him from the dead on Easter and bringing Him to heaven forty days later, on Ascension Day. These acts marked the completion of Christ's sacrifice. He is now in heaven showing His Father His five wounds as a sign of His love. He is forever an accepted VICTIM OF SACRIFICE.

4. Why is the Mass the same sacrifice as the sacrifice of the cross?

The Mass is the same sacrifice as the sacrifice of the cross because in the Mass the victim is the same, and the principal priest is the same, Jesus Christ. The Mass is the sacrament of the passion of Christ.

The Mass continues the Sacrifice of the Cross. Each time Mass is offered, the Sacrifice of Christ is repeated. A new sacrifice is not offered, but by divine power, one and the same sacrifice is repeated. "As often as you shall eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord, until He comes"

(1 Cor 11, 26). In the Mass Christ continues to offer Himself to the Father as He did on the Cross. And in the Mass the Father continues to accept His Son's gift, just as He did in the Resurrection and Ascension. That is why the priest says immediately after the Consecration of the Mass: "Mindful, therefore, O Lord, not only of the blessed passion of the same Christ, Your Son, our Lord, but also of His resurrection from the dead, and finally His glorious ascension into heaven we, Your ministers as also Your holy people, offer

to Your supreme Majesty, of the gifts bestowed upon us, the pure Victim, the holy Victim, the all-perfect Victim, the holy Bread of life eternal and the Chalice of unending salvation.

The Mass is a sacrifice but it is also a ceremony. Our Blessed Lord did not want His sacrifice continued in the same bloody way in which He offered it on the Cross. That would be too hard for us. So at the Last Supper He gave us a ceremony under which we could continue His Sacrifice. The Mass is the same basic ceremony as the Last Supper, with other prayers and actions that have been added by the Church in the course of time. But it is not an empty ceremony. It is a ceremony which is a sacrament, that is a sign of the action of Christ, a channel of grace. It is a sign of His action on the Cross. On the Cross and in the Mass there is the same Priest, the same Gift, or Victim, and the same act of offering.

5. What are the purposes for which the Mass is offered?

The purposes for which the Mass is offered are: *first*, to adore God as our Creator and Lord; *second*, to thank God for His many favors; *third*, to ask God to bestow His blessings on all men; *fourth*, to satisfy the justice of God for the sins committed against Him. These purposes are realized in every Mass regardless of the dispositions of the priest or people. In addition, there flows from each Mass special fruits, or blessings, upon the celebrant, servers, those present, those for whom it is offered, and all mankind, especially all members of the church and the souls in purgatory. These blessings may be increased or decreased by the good or bad disposition of each person concerned.

Sometimes people give a priest an offering or stipend, to say a Mass for some intention they desire, or some person, living or dead, for whom they want to pray. This offering is not buying a Mass, since the Mass is beyond price and all the money in the world would not buy one Mass. The value of the Mass is the value of the Precious Blood of Christ. But the Mass stipend is given to help support the priest who says the Mass. In former centuries people would make an offering of food, articles of clothing, firewood, etc., to the priest, but nowadays they usually find it easier simply to make a donation.

6. Is there any difference between the sacrifice of the cross and the Sacrifice of the Mass?

The manner in which the sacrifice is offered is different. On the Cross Christ physically shed His blood and was physically slain, while in the Mass there is no physical shedding of blood nor physical death, because Christ can die no more; on the cross Christ gained merit and satisfied for us, while in the Mass He applies to us the merits and satisfaction of His death on the cross.

7. How should we participate in the Holy Mass?

We should assist at Mass with reverence, attention, and devotion.

8. What is the best method of participating in the Holy Mass?

The best method of assisting at Mass is to unite with the priest in offering the Holy Sacrifice, and to receive Holy Communion.

9. How can we best unite with the priest in offering the Holy Sacrifice?

We can best unite with the priest in offering the Holy Sacrifice by joining in mind and heart with Christ, the principal Priest and Victim, by following the Mass in a missal, and by reciting or chanting the responses.

10. Who said the first Mass?

Our Divine Savior said the first Mass, at the Last Supper, the night before He died.

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.
Doors Open at 5 p.m.
1st Sunday of the month
1 p.m. Doors Open at 12 p.m.

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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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Adoration after Friday Mass

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

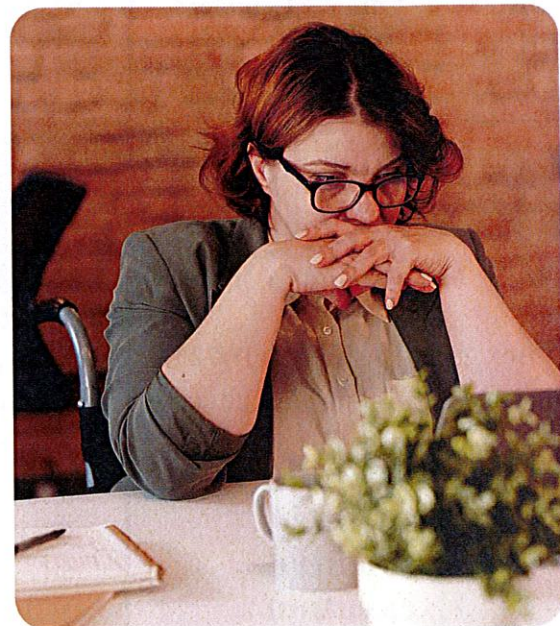
Dear Padre,

For the past year or so, I have been trying to pray on a regular basis, but I am constantly distracted. My mind wanders so easily. Do you have any suggestions?

Distractions in prayer are an inescapable part of the human condition and the results of our imagination. Even great saints experienced distractions in prayer. Some of their suggestions may help. For example, when St. Thérèse of Lisieux struggled with prayer, she would recite an Our Father or Hail Mary or read from the gospels. Praying as an act of faith or returning to God's presence and love can turn our focus away from other concerns, but, even then, distractions may still arise.

When we become aware of distractions, we should calmly renew our focus and continue our prayer. Saint Teresa of Ávila wrote in *The Interior Castle*, "We should not be distressed by reason of our thoughts, nor allow ourselves to be worried by them.... [Thoughts are] inevitable. Do not let [them] disturb or grieve you." No matter how often distractions return or how long they last, they are not sinful; rather, they are opportunities to show God that we are sincere about praying.

Saint Alphonsus, another great teacher of prayer, reminds us that prayer is necessary, beneficial, and always possible. He advises us to hang in there, because the devil would like nothing better than for us to stop praying. ●



MARCUS AURELIUS / PEXELS

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
June 22	June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28
Weekday	Weekday	The Nativity	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Thirteenth
2 Kgs 17:5–8, 13–15a, 18	2 Kgs 19:9b–11, 14–21, 31–35a, 36	of St. John the Baptist	2 Kgs 24:8–17	2 Kgs 25:1–12	Lam 2:2, 10–14, 18–19	Sunday in
Mt 7:1–5	Mt 7:6, 12–14	Is 49:1–6	Mt 7:21–29	Mt 8:1–4	Mt 8:5–17	Ordinary Time
		Acts 13:22–26				2 Kgs 4:8–11, 14–16a
		Lk 1:57–66, 80				Rom 6:3–4, 8–11
						Mt 10:37–42



MARISA CZL / CATHOPIC

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

It is wonderful to think that, when we consider our individual calling...each of us can say with confidence: "Despite my weakness, the Lord is not ashamed of my humanity. Instead, he comes to dwell within me. He accompanies me with his Spirit; he enlightens me and makes me an instrument of his love for others, for society, and for the world."

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 25, 2025