



[Jesus said to his disciples,] “If you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them.”

MATTHEW 13:29

Weeds in Wheat

MIGUEL DULICK

Jesus loved parables. “He spoke to them only in parables, to fulfill what had been said through the prophet: ‘I will open my mouth in parables, I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation [of the world]’” (Matthew 13:34–35).

Indeed, parables spring from creation itself. Wheat and weeds grow, a natural process, just waiting for Jesus to read the kingdom of heaven hidden within. Jesus doesn’t force an interpretation on these elements; he, more than anyone, follows his own advice: “Whoever has ears ought to hear” (Matthew 13:43).

Matthew is the only gospel writer who records this parable. Maybe he liked it because it’s his own story. Among the beautiful wheat of the chosen people, he was an ugly weed, a tax collector for the Roman Empire. Once Jesus plucked him from obscurity to follow him, Matthew might have thought, *Why didn’t God just strike me dead for all the poison I spread among my own brethren?*

Now, in the parable, the weeds never become wheat, and they indeed meet a terrible fate, but the point is to let the wheat and weeds grow together, lest we uproot the wheat when we pull up the weeds. Oftentimes, it’s difficult to tell the difference. Those who are “wheat” should not find excuses to separate from those judged to be “weeds.” The risk is too great for the damage we may do. Let God do the separating in God’s own time. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

Are you tempted to give up on someone? Or yourself?

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.arkansasatholic.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://stmichaelscatholicchurch.org>

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Amal Raju Lourduwamy 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 p.m.: 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.



Mass Intentions

Saturday / July 18th – St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest

4 p.m. Vigil Mass: Persephone Kootz

by: Buddy and Anne Kootz

Sunday/ July 19th – Sixteenth Day in Ordinary Time

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Jerry Hawbaker †

by: Barbara Hawbaker

Monday/July 20th– St. Apollinaris, Bishop/Martyr

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Reconciliation of the SSPX

by: Gail Demarest

****Silver Rose Mass included in the 9 am Mass/ Rosary**

Tuesday/ July 21 st – St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest/Dr.

No Holy Mass

Wednesday/ July 22nd – St. Mary Magdalene

6 p.m. Holy Mass : Patrick Roth †

By :Richard and Norma Frisk

Thursday /July 23rd – St. Bridget, Religious

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Mary Welch †

by: Ron Martin and Family

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

Friday/ July 24th – St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Reconciliation of the SSPX

by: Gail Demarest

Saturday / July 25th – St. James, Apostle

4 p.m. Vigil Mass: Mr. and Mrs. Garland Liles †

by: Terry Phelps and family

2nd collection- Altar Society

Anointing of the sick after Holy Mass

Sunday/ July 26th – Seventeenth Sunday

Ordinary Time

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Mary Welch †

by: Ron Martin and Family

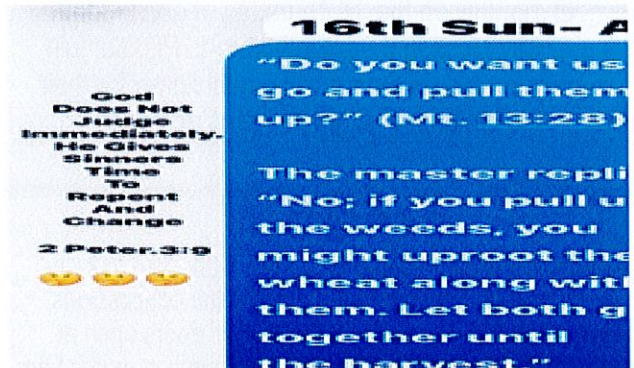
2nd collection – Altar Society

Anointing of the sick after Holy Mass

Bingo every Thursday doors open at 4:30 pm

games start at 6 pm and on 1st Sunday of every

month doors open at noon games start at 1:30 pm



July 4th and July 5th 2026

Main Collection \$ 2297.00

July 11th and 12th 2026

Main Collection \$ 1712.00

2nd Collection \$356.00

Thank you for your sacrificial giving !

Could you Not watch one hour with me ?



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: Kevin and Shannon Langelier in memory of her mother, Ruth Mitchell.

Tabernacle Roses are generously provided by: Buddy and Anne Kootz in honor of granddaughter, Persephone Kootz birthday.

St. Monica's Group

They meet monthly on the 1st Thursday of each month after 9 am Holy Mass in the church library. Please, join them to pray for our children and grandchildren for their spiritual protection and strength in their Catholic faith.

B-I-N-G-O

Come support our Bingo committee, they work hard to keep the bingo games going and the Knights do the concessions. Games are every 1st Sunday of each month, doors open at noon, games start at 1:30 pm and every Thursday night of the week doors open at 4:30 pm and games start at 6 pm. It's a great way to enjoy the hot summer nights in the cool with some good food made by the Knights and it benefits our church !
See you there !!

Silver Rose Mass

Monday July 20th at 9 am Holy Mass, it will include the Silver Rose Mass and Rosary starting at 8:30 am. Adoration of the Silver Rose will be during Holy Mass.
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Thank you !

To all our volunteers who keep everything running smoothly with your time, talent and treasures.

Food Pantry Needs

Toilet paper, peanut butter, jelly, canned meats and dry milk. This is an example you can use for what is needed for the next collection on the 1st full weekend in August. You may drop off in the parish library any time just let someone know. Thank you.

Taste of Faith - Pocahontas

There will also be a Taste of Faith in Pocahontas to benefit the seminarian's education. It will be held on Saturday August 1st, 2026, at **St. Paul's Catholic Church** beginning with the Holy mass at 5 pm then (Happy Hour Cash bar) begins at 6 pm with dinner and program to follow. Tables seat 8. We must have reservations so if you would like to attend, please contact Lori Templet at
email at ltemplet2507@yahoo.com or
phone # 225-717-0238



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 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 !

July 20th – Michael DeCoster
July 20th – Shelly Yingling
July 21st – Frances Trudell
July 22nd – Darrell Beason
July 24th – Maureen Fortuna
July 25th – Glenda Moore
July 26th – Ken Rodenbeck



We wish you many blessings on your Anniversary !

- ♥ CJ and BJ Simon on July 18th ♥ 46 years
- ♥ Patrick and Linda O'Donnell on July 21st ♥ 19 years
- ♥ Tom and JoAnn Helfert on July 22nd ♥ 59 years
- ♥ Ken and Linda Rodenbeck on July 23rd ♥ 66 years
- ♥ Jean Marie and Jacob Hendricks on July 24th ♥ 14 years
- ♥ Michael and Stacey Burton on July 26th ♥ 29 years
- ♥ Dustin and Allison Munroe on July 26th ♥ 23 years

To Learn More About Confession

Part 6a

Confession

1. What is confession?

Confession is the telling of our sins to an authorized priest for the purpose of obtaining forgiveness.

2. Why must we confess our sins?

We must confess our sins because Jesus Christ obliges us to do so in these words, spoken to the apostles and to their successors in the priesthood: "Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained."

3. How do these words of Christ oblige us to confess our sins?

These words of Christ oblige us to confess our sins because the priest cannot know whether he should forgive or retain our sins unless we tell them to him. Jesus wants people to confess their sins since this humbles that pride which is the root of all sin. If we were to tell our sins to God alone, pride would not be humbled and would remain strong.

4. Is it necessary to confess every sin?

It is necessary to confess every mortal sin which has not yet been confessed and forgiven; it is not necessary to confess our venial sins, but it is better to do so. Anyone who deliberately omits a venial sin in confession does not make a bad confession but loses much of the grace of the sacrament which would help him overcome this sin. Besides, there is the danger that he might convince himself that a sin is only venial which is really mortal. In doubt, it is always safer to tell even venial sins.

5. What are the chief qualities of a good confession?

The chief qualities of a good confession are three: it must be humble (no excuses), sincere (no falsehoods), and entire (no omissions-confess fully).

6. When is our confession humble?

Our confession is humble when we accuse ourselves of our sins with a conviction of guilt for having offended God..

7. When is our confession sincere?

Our confession is sincere when we tell our sins honestly and frankly.

8. When is our confession entire?

Our confession is entire when we confess at least all our mortal sins, telling their kind, the number of times we have committed each sin, and any circumstances changing their nature.

9. What are we to do if without our fault we forget to confess a mortal sin?

If without our fault we forget to confess a mortal sin, we may receive Holy Communion, because we have made a good confession and the sin is forgiven; but we must tell the sin in confession if it again comes to our mind.

10. What happens if we knowingly conceal a mortal sin in confession?

If we knowingly conceal a mortal sin in confession, the sins we confess are not forgiven; moreover, we commit a mortal sin of sacrilege.

11. What must a person do who has knowingly concealed a mortal sin in confession?

A person who has knowingly concealed a mortal sin in confession must confess that he has made a bad confession, tell the sin he has concealed, mention the sacraments he has received since that time, and confess all the mortal sins he has committed since his last good confession. No matter how often you go to confession after this, no sin will ever be forgiven until you tell the one (mortal) you deliberately left out. As often as you go to confession without telling this mortal sin, all the confessions will be bad. And if you go to Communion, this will be a sacrilege, too.

12. Why should a sense of shame and fear of telling our sins to the priest never lead us to conceal a mortal sin in confession?

A sense of shame and fear of telling our sins to the priest should never lead us to conceal a mortal sin in confession because this is a grave sacrilege, and also because the priest, who represents Christ Himself, is bound by the seal of the sacrament of Penance never to reveal anything that has been confessed to him. A priest must always keep his lips locked about what he hears in confession. One priest even died a martyr's death, because he refused to reveal what he had heard in confession. His name was St. John Nepomucene.

13. Why does the priest give us a penance after confession?

The priest gives us a penance after confession that we may make some atonement to God for our sins, receive help to avoid them in the future, and make some satisfaction for the temporal punishment due to them.

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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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

TRI-COUNTY FUNERAL HOME

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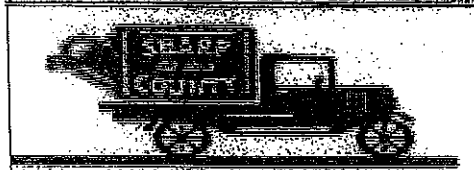
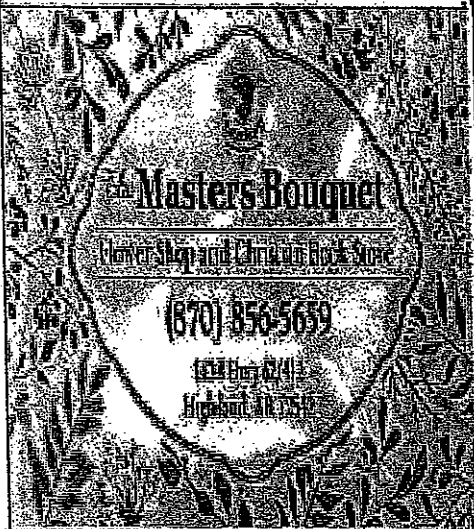
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Dear Padre,

My former boyfriend died recently. He was very abusive and caused me a lot of pain. Should I pray for him even if I believe that no amount of prayer could help him?

Yes, you should pray for him and, despite your lingering hurt from the relationship, resist the urge to make a judgment about him. This decision is not only a healthy spiritual choice, but it will also help you heal the wounds that you still carry. Praying for him does not mean that you are denying any of the hurt that he inflicted on you but rather that you are capable of maturity and choices that were seemingly beyond his ability. Praying for him really says more about you than it says about him. It is also an act of grace-inspired honesty and faithfulness. It is a statement that you believe wholeheartedly in the merciful and forgiving God who is capable of healing the deepest hurts and is even capable of helping his faithful people ultimately forgive those who have inflicted harm upon them. ●



VASYLCHENKO NIKITA / SHUTTERSTOCK

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

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

While unity attracts, division scatters....

Therefore, in order to be a truly missionary Church, one that is capable of witnessing to the attractive power of Christ's love, we must first of all put into practice his commandment, the only one he gave us after washing his disciples' feet: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

**EXTRAORDINARY CONSISTORY,
ROME, JANUARY 7, 2026**



Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday

July 20
Weekday
Mi 6:1-4, 6-8
Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday

July 21
Weekday
Mi 7:14-15, 18-20
Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday

July 22
St. Mary Magdalene
Sg 3:1-4b or
2 Cor 5:14-17
Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday

July 23
Weekday
Jer 2:1-3, 7-8,
12-13
Mt 13:10-17

Friday

July 24
Weekday
Jer 3:14-17
Mt 13:18-23

Saturday

July 25
St. James, Apostle
2 Cor 4:7-15
Mt 20:20-28

Sunday

July 26
Seventeenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12
Rom 8:28-30
Mt 13:44-52
or 13:44-46