



Behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.”

MATTHEW 2:1B–2

In Search of God

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We are always in search of something or other, it seems—an intangible something that tends to shift and change over the course of our lives, like the tumbling pieces of a kaleidoscope. Sometimes, it is love we seek. Other times, meaning. Or inner peace, freedom from anxiety or guilt. Or perhaps freedom from all that ties us down. And sometimes, it is God we seek. Like the Magi, we too are on a quest for the Holy One.

One afternoon, Tom, a high-school sophomore, stopped by. He asked if we could talk about God—or, more exactly, about what God was like. He had been in a study hall, waiting for the bell to ring, when the person behind him asked, “When you die, do you think you’re going to see God?” Tom said he thought he would, but then the other student replied, “Well, you won’t, because God doesn’t have a body. There isn’t something to see.”

The bell rang, Tom said, and they never finished the conversation. Tom wondered whether God had a body or not, and, if not, then what was God like? Tom was searching for a God that made sense amidst galaxies and black holes and light years of time, but also a God who was personal and knowable and lovable. He wasn’t sure how to put the two together. He had become one of the Magi on a journey to find God. ●

Reflect

Where are you on your journey to know and discover 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
(870) 257-2850 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
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://stmichaelcv.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 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.



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 751-3420

Religious Education C.C.D

Lori Templet 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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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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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

"A sincere personal service"



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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,

I'm into horoscopes. A friend told me that astrology is nonsense and against the Catholic faith. What do you say?

Stargazing is as old as the human race. We know with certainty that ancient Chaldea was known for its stargazers. Many of the constellations' names originated during that time. Some scholars believe that the three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the newborn Savior were themselves Chaldean stargazers.

Astrologers believe that the zodiac signs under which we were born largely control our human destiny. The Christian objection to astrology is that it insults almighty God, who alone knows the future. God alone, in cooperation with the free will of humans, controls the future. To suppose that stars, planets, animals, or inanimate objects can, independent of God, direct or influence our lives opposes the first commandment: "I am the LORD your God.... You shall not have other gods beside me" (Exodus 20:2-3).

The Old Testament clearly spells out that it is vain to imagine "either fire, or wind, or the swift air, or the circuit of the stars, or the mighty water, or the luminaries of heaven" as "the governors of the world" (Wisdom 13:2).

Don't give credit to or blame the stars for what you do and who you are. See past them to the God who made them, and who made us, and who cares for all creation.



TANYA ANTUSENOK / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

God made us: brimming with desire, directed, like the Magi, towards the stars.... We are what we desire. For it is our desires that...drive our lives forward, beyond the barriers of habit, beyond banal consumerism, beyond a drab and dreary faith, beyond the fear of becoming involved and serving others and the common good.



CNS PHOTO

HOMILY, ROME, JANUARY 6, 2022

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday

January 6
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 3:22-4:6
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday

January 7
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:7-10
Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday

January 8
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:11-18
Mk 6:45-52

Thursday

January 9
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19-5:4
Lk 4:14-22a

Friday

January 10
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:5-13
Lk 5:12-16

Saturday

January 11
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:14-21
Jn 3:22-30

Sunday

January 12
The Baptism of the Lord
Is 42:1-4, 6-7
or Is 40:1-5, 9-11
Acts 10:34-38
or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22