



## God of Justice, God of Mercy

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**L**ife is not fair. Even though we know this, we expect God to be fair, which may be what irks so many about the Parable of the Lost Son. There is a part of our skewed human nature that agrees with the older son in the story. It certainly seems that the younger son was able to have his cake and eat it too, while the older son could only sit by and watch, missing out on the devil-may-care part of life. It didn't seem fair, and the older son said so.

The point of the story does seem to be that God is both just and merciful, but if ever one of those virtues seems to give way to the other, then, from God's perspective, divine mercy always trumps worldly justice. We,

however, think that's not fair. We grow suspect of deathbed conversions, worried that the person is trying to have life both ways. But do we give thought to the suffering such a life without God might entail? The humiliation and near starvation of the younger son as he lived his self-indulgent life?

We think we want God to be fair, but do we really?

### Reflect

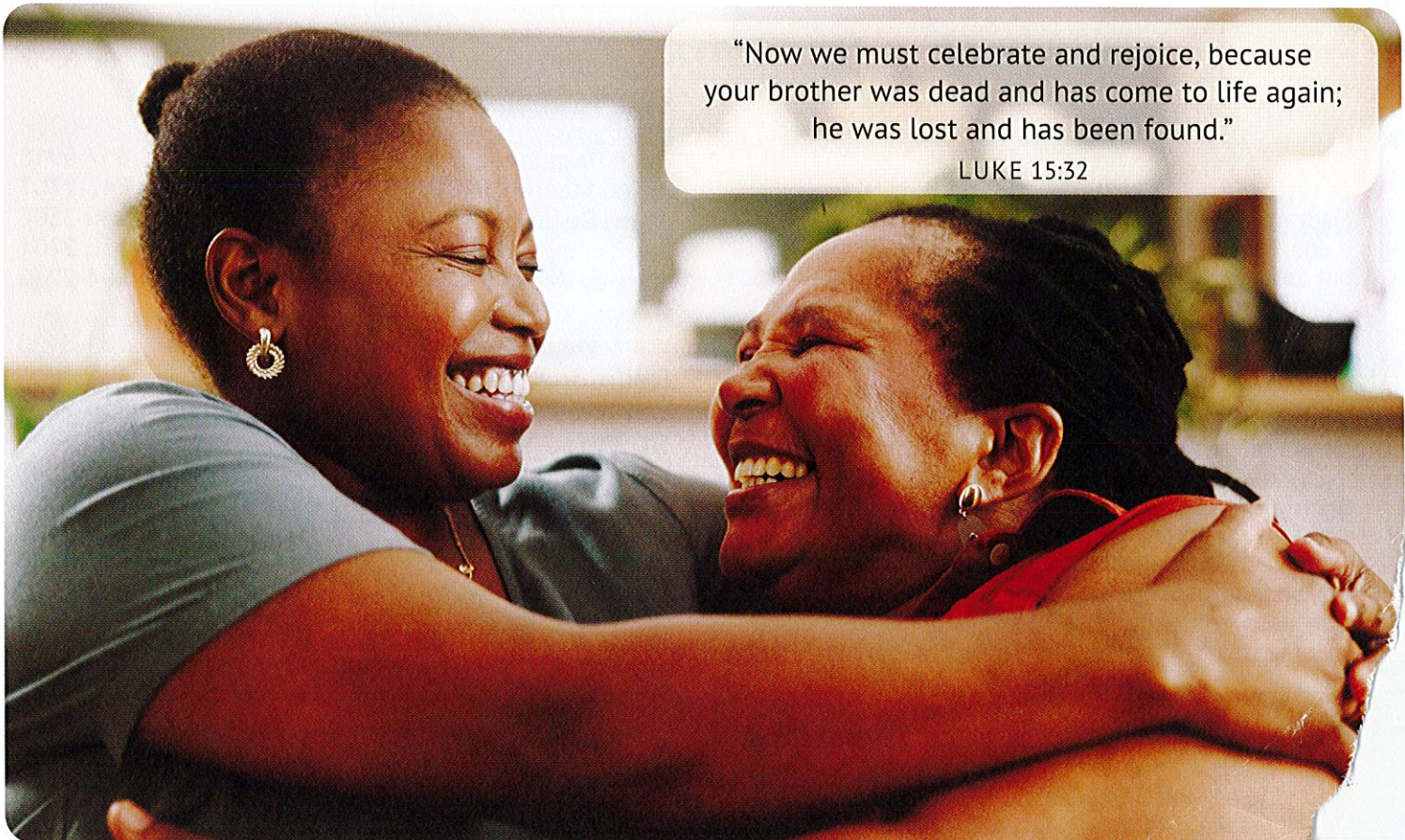
***Does my life seem unfair? More fair or less fair compared with others?***

In C.S. Lewis' novel, *Till We Have Faces*, one character asks another if the gods are just, to which is replied, "Oh, child, pray that they are not!" Do we really want to be treated with justice, getting exactly what we deserve and no more?

Or do we want to let God be God and be treated with mercy? ●

"Now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

LUKE 15:32





# 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  
& 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 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.

**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 receive 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

**ANYONE**  
CONSTRUCTION

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0.994.7472 | CanyonBuilds.com


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 **KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
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

*"A sincere personal service"*

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*Old World Charm*

P.O. Box 676  
3079 Highway 62 West  
Hardy, Arkansas 72542

DOUG WORTHAM, President  
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After Hours Hotline  
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Monday — Thursday open  
10 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday



**White River  
Health**

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Cherokee Village, AR 72525

870-257-6000

**Tri-County  
Funeral Home**


Compassion and Guidance  
when needed most

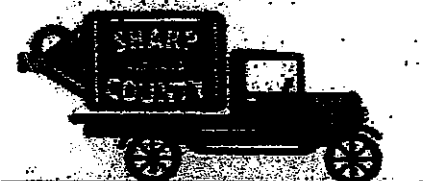
870-856-2705

Physical Address  
1540 Highway 62/412  
Highland, AR 72542

Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 665  
Hardy AR. 72542

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3075 Hwy 62/412 Highland, AR 72542  
highlandflorist.com



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



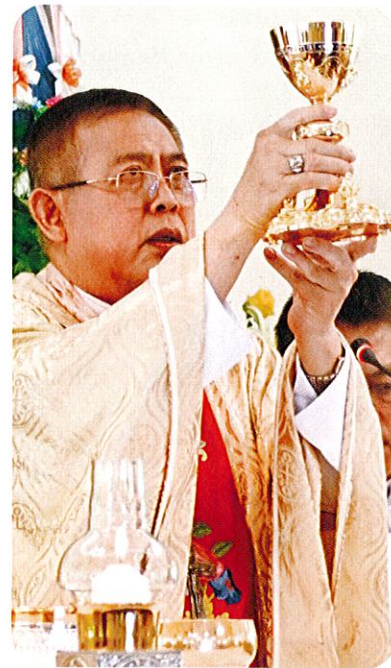
# Dear Padre,

*Is it OK if I receive holy Communion more than once a day?  
Part of my routine is to go to early morning Mass in my parish,  
even on days I know I'm going to another Mass, like a wedding  
or funeral, or sometimes another Mass for that day.*

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that by the very nature of what the Eucharist intends and celebrates, those who participate in the great mystery of our faith should “receive the Lord’s Body” (1388). In other words, reception of holy Communion is strongly recommended and is understood as the ordinary practice for all who participate in the Mass. Proper preparation and disposition are presumed as both necessary and important.

In response to a specific “dubium” or question about this practice and expectation, in 1984 the Pontifical Commission on the Code of Canon Law issued an authentic interpretation of the Church’s understanding of this practice. It mandated that “the faithful may receive the Holy Eucharist only a second time on the same day” (CCC, 1388, footnote 222). This directive is intended to establish the general norm and practice for the reception of holy Communion. Your practice, as a result of this norm, is directly representative of the understanding of the Church. ●

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



## Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

| Monday         | Tuesday        | Wednesday      | Thursday       | Friday              | Saturday       | Sunday               |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| March 31       | April 1        | April 2        | April 3        | April 4             | April 5        | April 6              |
| Lenten Weekday | Lenten Weekday | Lenten Weekday | Lenten Weekday | Lenten Weekday      | Lenten Weekday | Fifth Sunday of Lent |
| Is 65:17–21    | Ez 47:1–9, 12  | Is 49:8–15     | Ex 32:7–14     | Wis 2:1a, 12–22     | Jer 11:18–20   | Is 43:16–21          |
| Jn 4:43–54     | Jn 5:1–16      | Jn 5:17–30     | Jn 5:31–47     | Jn 7:1–2, 10, 25–30 | Jn 7:40–53     | Phil 3:8–14          |
|                |                |                |                |                     |                | Jn 8:1–11            |



THE PRODIGAL SON, PETER PAUL RUBENS / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*There was a pop theatre production...about the prodigal son.... [The son writes a letter]: “Father, I have repented, I want to come back home.... If you want to welcome me, please put a white handkerchief in the window.” And when he was near home...what did he see? Not one handkerchief: it was full of white handkerchiefs, the windows, everywhere!*

**ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 27, 2022**