

Jesus said to [Thomas], "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

JOHN 20:29

The Importance of Trust

ANN M. GARRIDO

We can readily understand Thomas' insistence upon seeing things with his own eyes. Would you believe it if someone told you that a friend whose funeral you had attended was now walking through walls?

At some time or other, all of us have been tricked into believing something we later found out was untrue and remember how foolish we felt. Haven't our parents told us not to believe everything we hear? Haven't our teachers taught us to do our own research? Doubt serves a valuable purpose, and we would be naïve to disregard it.

At the same time, we know that doubt can become a way of life, overstepping its usefulness. During the COVID pandemic, for example, some refused to believe even the most knowledgeable medical voices in the nation. Like Thomas, they insisted that unless they'd "done their own research," they wouldn't believe. Such a stance ignores that unless you are a scientist working in a medical lab, even "your own research" will be based on an act of belief that what you are reading of others' research is correct. Doubt is good, but only in combination with a healthy dose of humility. In the end, the world turns on an axis of trust.

At the close of today's gospel, Jesus names as "blessed" those able to discern what is true and believe not only because of what they have seen with their own eyes but also because of what they have heard through their ears from sources worthy of their trust. ●

Reflect

When has doubt served a purpose, and when has it gotten in my way?

**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://stmichaelscvatholicchurch.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 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.



Mass Intentions

Saturday / April 11th – Octave of Easter

4 p.m. Vigil Mass : Andy Anderson

by: Dean Beardslee

* 2nd collection Maintenance Fund

Sunday/ April 12th – Divine Mercy Sunday

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Ernst Wege †

by: Jim Wege

*2nd collection Maintenance Fund

KC Big Breakfast after Holy Mass

Divine Mercy Service 2:45 PM today

Monday/April 13th – Easter weekday- St. Martin I,Pope

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Harold Lampe †

by: Rose Brandenburg

*KC Meeting The Rosary at 5 pm w/potluck meeting to follow

Tuesday/ April 14th – Easter weekday

No Holy Mass :

Wednesday/ April 15th – Easter weekday

No Holy Mass:

*Altar society card party at noon

Thursday / April 16th – Easter weekday

No Holy Mass

*Bingo starts at 6 pm doors open at 5 pm

Friday/ April 17th – Easter weekday

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Dylan Ruchstahl

by: Mary Kocz

Saturday / April 18th – Easter weekday

4 p.m. Vigil Mass : Bill Williams †

by: Trudi Williams

* No 2nd collection

Sunday/ April 19th – Third Sunday of Easter

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Theresa Kootz

by: Buddy and Anne Kootz

* No 2nd collection

Divine Mercy Service Sunday April 12th 2:45 pm

* KC's BIG BREAKFAST after 9 AM Holy Mass on Sunday April 12th, 2026

Divine Mercy Sunday

Never give up on asking for forgiveness from God. Your sins are not greater than God's MERCY.

🙏 Wishing you a Blessed Week 🙏



April 4th and April 5th, 2026

Main collection : \$4150

Holy Thursday/ Seminarians : \$1004

Good Friday/Holy Land \$545

Many thanks to you for your sacrificial giving!

Could you Not watch one hour with me ?



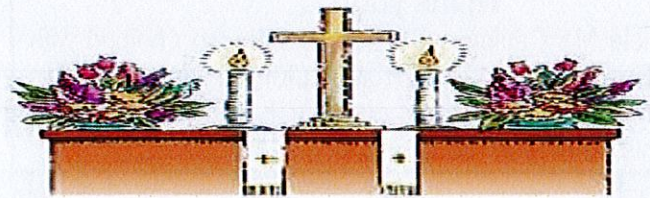
ADORATION CHAPEL SIGN-UP

Available Adoration

Tuesday 6 pm to 7 pm

Rose, (870) 847-5018, or

Anne, (870) 847-19859



God Bless the Donors and their Intentions

Altar Flowers this week are generously provided by: **Joyce Speir** in memory of her daughter **Mechelle Bryant**.

Tabernacle Roses this week are generously provided by: **Jim Wege** in memory of his father **Ernest Wege** .

Our Sympathy

To the family and loves ones of Mary Louise Welch, she passed away on April 3rd, Good Friday at Eagle Crest Nursing home. Her funeral Mass was on Thursday April 9th, 2026 here at St. Michael's. She will be buried in Centralia, Washington. May her soul rest in peace.

Thank you !

Compassion Ministry for taking care of the luncheon for Mary Welch's family meal after the funeral Mass and all who help with the Mass and food.

KC Big Breakfast

The Knights will be having their big breakfast on Sunday April 12th after Sunday Holy Mass downstairs in the parish hall. The Knights do so much for our church so please let us support them. Tickets are available at the door.

Divine Mercy Service

There will be a 2:45 pm Divine Mercy Service on Sunday April 12th.

Food Pantry Collection

Last weekend we collected 77 items for those in need. We appreciate you and thank you for helping.

Thank you !

Pamela MacCauley and all the people who helped with the Easter flowers and decorating for the church. It takes many volunteers to bless our church with their time and talents. Know you are all appreciated !

Vacation Bible School

We will have Vacation Bible School this year at St. Michael's. Starting Sunday, May 31st and ending with Mass on Wednesday, June 3rd. The sessions will start at 5:30 pm and end at 7:30 pm on all days. It will be held in the Parish Hall. The children will learn a song to perform at the Wednesday Mass. Bible stories and crafts will top out the agenda. Please spread the word to all youngsters ages 3 and up. The older kids can come and help and earn service hours for school. We will have a sign-up a few weeks before it starts. For more information contact Lori Templett at 225-717-0238 or email: templet2507@yahoo.com

Holy Mass Intentions

There are still openings on the 2026 Holy Mass schedule please, see the office if you would like to schedule one or several. The cost for each one is \$10.



Daniel Brandenburg, Bernie Brandenburg, Robert Butner, Nell Kihm, Jack Heuser, Crystal Hawkins, Joyce Speir, Michael Gagne, Isabelle Wiest, Michael & Martha DeCoster, Larry Allen, Steve Allen, JoAnn Colwell, Georgia Harris, Dan Such, Dawn Logan, Mary Lee, Jim Whorl, Sister Joy Wege, Tim and Betty Eash, Jimmy White, Joan Schulz, Gail Demarest, Nico Woode, Pat Kimball, Ray McHugh, Marcella Birckhead, Michael Reddick, Gerald and Carol Metty, Darren Bates, Maryann Barber, Martin and Amy Moriarty, Maria Gerrah, Colleen Royal, Cecilia Cefalu, Darrell and Elizabeth Beason, Tim Starken, Doug and Tammy Wortham.
Nursing Home: Chuck Wolff, Ruth Klinge, and KayLynn Rodenbeck

We wish you many blessings on your Birthday!

- 🎂 April 13th – Richard Frisk
- 🎂 April 14th – Michael Gentile
- 🎂 April 18th – Camisha Smith



We wish you many blessings on your Anniversary!

♡ No Anniversaries this week

** If we miss your birthday or anniversary please let the office know. Thank you~

**** Please, consider signing up for Altar Flowers or Tabernacle Roses here at the church. You just sign up on the charts in the vestibule and put a check under the secretary's door or drop it by. The prices are on the charts. You may also call the church.**

Dear Padre,

We are told that when we receive the Holy Eucharist, our venial sins are washed away. Does the same thing happen when we receive spiritual communion?

Yes, and there are many other ways that venial sins can be forgiven. First and foremost is each of the sacraments of reconciliation: baptism, Eucharist, penance, and anointing of the sick. In addition to the sacraments, an Act of Contrition will also suffice, as will a simple prayer of intercession, such as, "Lord, Jesus, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me, a sinner." Forgiveness of venial sins is directly dependent on one thing: the sanctifying grace of the Holy Spirit at work in our world and in each one of us. Forgiveness is not merited; it is a gift, and, as a gift, it requires only that we ask and gratefully receive.

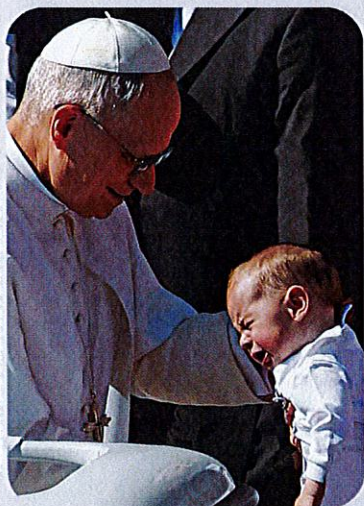
It is true that we are all sinful. We are also all blessed. As wonderful as forgiveness is, and there truly is no greater gift of God's love, an equally wonderful gift is gratitude. Perhaps, with every Act of Contrition that we pray, we should also offer a prayer of thanksgiving. It might help us find balance if we remind ourselves not only how we may not have measured up but also that we are blessed and graced. ●

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



MONSTERA PRODUCTION / PEXELS

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV



ALESSIA PIERDOMENICO / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Lord shows us his wounds and says: Peace be with you. Do not be afraid to show your wounds healed by mercy. Do not be afraid to draw close to those who are trapped in fear or guilt. May the breath of the Spirit make us,

too, witnesses of this peace and this love that is stronger than any defeat.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, OCTOBER 1, 2025

Monday

April 13
Easter Weekday
Acts 4:23-31
Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday

April 14
Easter Weekday
Acts 4:32-37
Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday

April 15
Easter Weekday
Acts 5:17-26
Jn 3:16-21

Thursday

April 16
Easter Weekday
Acts 5:27-33
Jn 3:31-36

Friday

April 17
Easter Weekday
Acts 5:34-42
Jn 6:1-15

Saturday

April 18
Easter Weekday
Acts 6:1-7
Jn 6:16-21

Sunday

April 19
Third Sunday
of Easter
Acts 2:14, 22-33
1 Pt 1:17-21
Lk 24:13-35

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

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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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

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TXT Helpline to 313131
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10 a.m. — 5 p.m.
Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday



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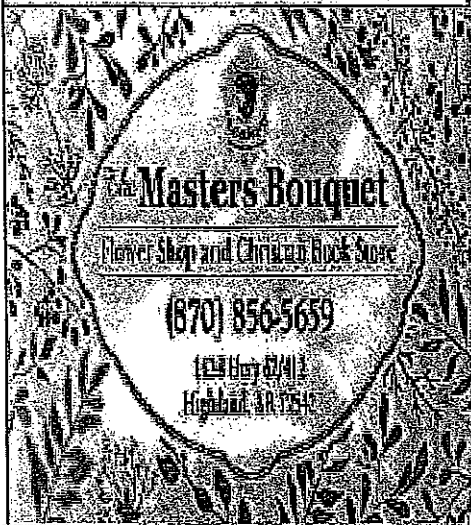
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Horseshoe Bend AR.72512
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Confessions after every Mass
Adoration after Friday Mass

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