

Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth.

EPHESIANS 5:8B-9

Born Free

MIGUEL DULICK

Today's gospel, the healing of the man born blind, is a terrific story that includes many details. Notice that Jesus, who has his own agenda, "so that the works of God might be made visible through him," does not even wait for the man to ask to be healed. But the man is a willing subject, allowing mud and saliva to be smeared on his eyes, agreeing to go to Siloam and wash. And, he's a quick learner. At first, all he knows is "the man called Jesus" healed him. Soon, however, he's calling Jesus "a prophet." Then, as a "division" ("schism" in the original) opens among the authorities and even in his own family, he defends Jesus' divine calling when the Pharisees mock Jesus as a "sinner." Finally, expelled from the synagogue, the man finds Jesus waiting for him with the ultimate revelation: he sees before him the Son of Man, "and he worshiped him."

Now, maybe we weren't born blind, but I venture to say a lot of us are short-sighted. Do I "see the works of God"? Starting from "the man called Jesus," do I keep going forward in faith, defending Jesus when he is mocked by people, to a deeper, fuller reality than even my own family may not understand? All the way to adoration, worship, a total handing over of my whole self to the Son of Man? Or, as Thomas would later say, when his own eyes were opened, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

This week, I will pray for my eyes to be opened to something important for me to see.

**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/March 14th – Lenten Weekday

4 p.m. Vigil Mass : Joshua Maederer

by: Garry and Cathy Raikes

2nd Collection – Maintenance Fund

Sunday/ March 15th – Fourth Sunday of Lent

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Mechelle Bryant †

by : Joyce Speir

2nd collection – Maintenance Fund

Monday/Marc/ 16th – Lenten Weekday

9 a.m. Holy Mass : William Duncan

by: Dean Beardslee

**Parish Council meeting 6 pm in the library

Tuesday/March 17th – St. Patrick, Bishop

No Holy Mass :

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Wednesday/ March 18th– St. Cyril, Bishop and Doctor

6 p.m. Holy Mass: All volunteers at St. Michael's

by: People of the Parish

Thursday / March 19th – St. Joseph, Spouse of

The Blessed Virgin Mary

9 a.m. Holy Mass : St. Michael's deceased parishioners †

by: People of the Parish

*BINGO at 6 pm doors open at 5 pm

Friday/ March 20th – Lenten Weekday

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Kimberly Raikes

by: Garry and Cathy Raikes

*Stations of the Cross 5 pm

* KC Fish Fry after Stations

Saturday/March 21st – Lenten Weekday

4 p.m. Vigil Mass : Rob and Patricia Hummel

by: Sydney Breedlove

2nd Collection – none

**Anointing of the Sick after Mass

** Magnificat Ladies Luncheon – 11 am-2 pm Parish Hall

Sunday/ March 22nd – Fifth Sunday of Lent

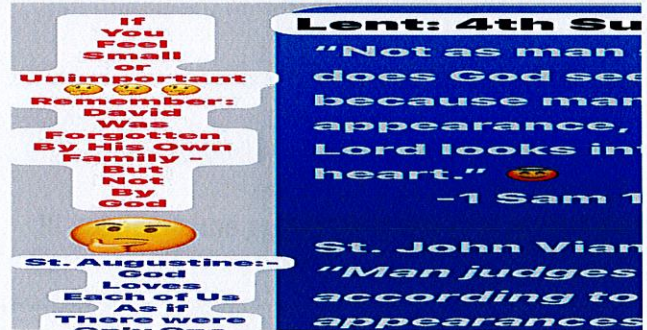
9 a.m. Holy Mass : Kimberly Matselboba †

by : Maureen Matselboba

**Anointing of the Sick after Mass

2nd collection – none

Thought
for the week



If You Feel Small or Unimportant Remember: David Was Forgotten By His Own Family - But Not By God

St. Augustine: God Loves Each of Us As if There were

Lent: 4th Su

"Not as man does God see because man appearance, Lord looks into heart." -1 Sam 16

St. John Vian

"Man judges according to appearances

🙏 Wishing you a Blessed Week 🙏



Collection Report

March 7th and March 8th, 2026

Main collection : \$ 2827.53

Easter Flowers : \$ 896.00

Many thanks to you for your sacrificial giving!

Could you Not watch one hour with me ?



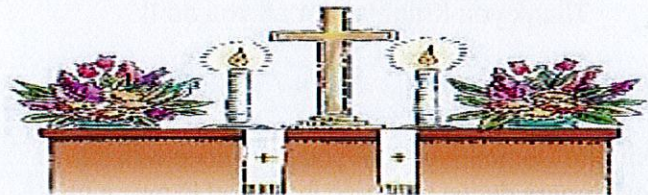
ADORATION CHAPEL SIGN-UP

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:

(Lent)

Tabernacle Roses this week are generously provided

by: (Lent)

** EASTER FLOWERS : you may donate for Easter flowers at any time, please be generous so we can make our church beautiful for Easter ! Thank you~

NEW – Single Retired Ladies Ministry

You are invited to join this new ministry here at St. Michael's. **The 1st gathering will be a ladies luncheon on Thursday March 26th in the parish hall. Lunch will be from noon to 1 pm. Please, bring a dish to share.** If you would like to be included in this ministry please let the church office know so we can be aware of how many will be coming. We look forward to seeing you there.

May it bring you many blessings and much joy !!!

Magnificat Luncheon

Magnificat ladies will be hosting their upcoming luncheon on **Saturday March 21st 2026.** **Fr. Jon Miskin from St. Mary's in Batesville will be our speaker.** Tickets are \$15 each. Flyers are available in the vestibule. For more information contact Lori Templet at cell 225-717-0238 or ltemplet2507@yahoo.com.

Thank you !

Fr. Norbert and Fr. Babu for coming and being with us for the penance service here at St. Michael's.

Fr. Amal, thank you for all you do with arranging our penance service and having the extra priests available and being here for us always. **God bless our Priests.**

KC Fish Fry

After **Stations of the Cross** on **Friday March 20th,** our Knights will be doing their last 2026 **Lenten Fish Fry,** in the parish hall. Please, join them.

Thank you Knights - for all you do !!

Thank you !

Parish Life Committee for all you have done with the **Soup Suppers** during Lent also thank you to everyone who brought food. The last one will be on **Friday March 27th after Stations of the Cross.**

Food Pantry

Thank you to all who donated !

There were **161 items collected** last weekend. Please, do not donate any items that have been opened or partially used. Please, watch the date of items. **We can't use items that are several months expired or that have been opened.**



Fr. Daniel Brandenburg, Bernie Brandenburg, Robert Butner, Nell Kihm, Mary Welch, Jack Heuser, Crystal Hawkins, Joyce Speir, Michael Gagne, Isabelle Wiest, Chuck Wolff, 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, 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 Starcken, Doug and Tammy Wortham.
Nursing Home: Ruth Klinge and KayLynn Rodenbeck

We wish you many blessings on your Birthday!

- 🕯 March 16th – Josephine Claire Ishmael
- 🕯 March 18th – Dylan Munroe
- 🕯 March 21st – Rebecca Pope
- 🕯 March 22nd – Elizabeth Pope



We wish you many blessings on your Anniversary!

- ♥ Anthony and Rebecca Burkhammer
March 22nd – 18 years

**** Holy Week Retreat for single Catholic women ages 19 to 35 April 2-4, 2026 by the Olivetan Benedictine Sisters at Holy Angels Convent ** if interested – see the flyers in the vestibule for more information.**

If we miss your birthday or anniversary please contact the church office. It is possible you didn't give us all the information when you registered with the church or our records need to be updated

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.

CANYON

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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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1-800-712-HELP (4357)

TXT Helpline to 313131

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870-257-6000

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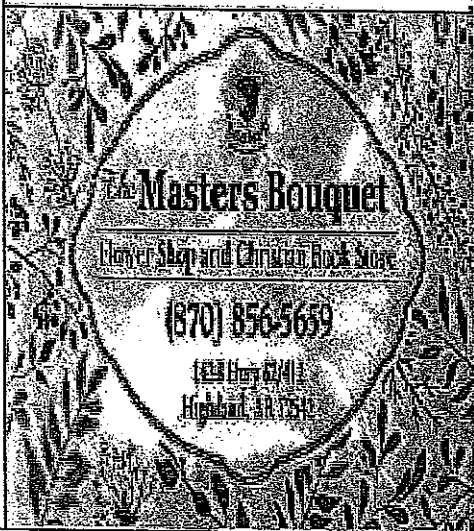
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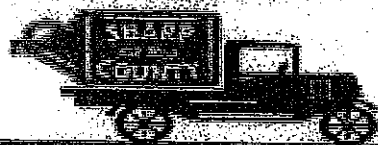
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1002 First Street
Horseshoe Bend AR.72512
(870) 670-5896

<https://stmaryshsb.org>
Confessions after every Mass
Adoration after Friday Mass

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

Dear Padre,

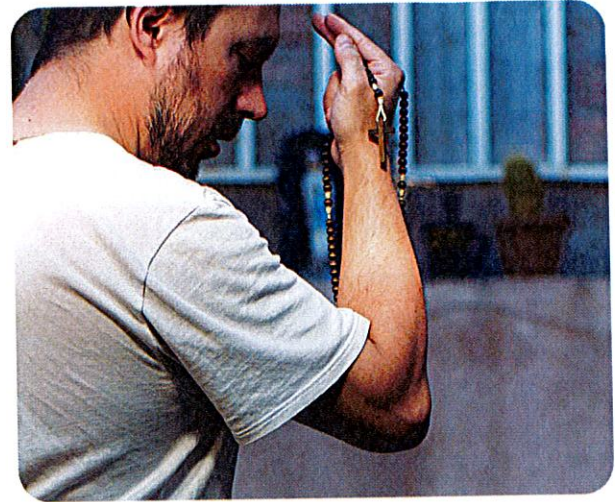
I am left-handed. Why doesn't the church allow the sign of the cross to be made left-handed?

A Catholic who is unable to make the sign of the cross with the right hand is certainly permitted to do so with the left. There is no rule against it. When Pope Saint John Paul II injured his right arm, he used his left hand to impart his blessing.

The sign of the cross is a sacramental, one of the symbols that identifies you as a Roman Catholic. Just like all such symbolic gestures, there is an expected uniformity. To use a secular example, at a University of Texas football game, fans of the Longhorns give the "hook-'em horns" sign. You wouldn't give the "thumbs-up" sign instead. It would be confusing.

It's true that at one time, the left hand was associated with evil. Jesus sends the goats to sit at his left and the sheep to his right. (See Matthew 25:33.) And, throughout the Scriptures, we read that Jesus sits at the right hand of God. (See Mark 16:19.) The word "sinister" is from the Latin *sinister*, meaning "left."

Left-handedness is no longer associated with evil. If you wish to make the sign of the cross with your left hand, you may. But do consider why you are doing it. Most left-handed people have no trouble using their right hand for many simple tasks. If your purpose is a bit rebellious, maybe realize that signifying unity with your brothers and sisters in Christ is more important. ●



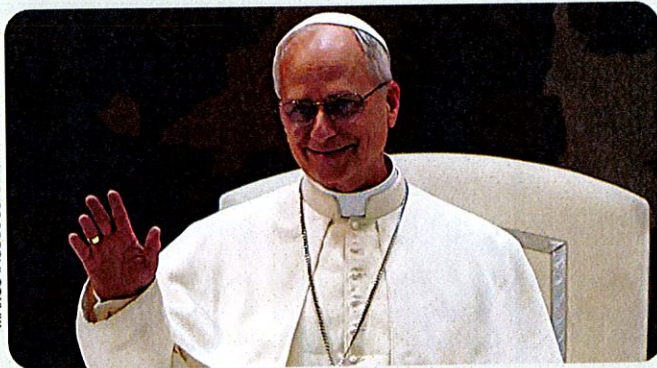
ALFONSO / CATHOPIC

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*.

MARCO IACOBUCCI EP / SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Dear brothers and sisters, let us trustfully bring our ailments before Jesus, and also those of our loved ones; let us bring the pain of those who feel lost and without a way out. Let us cry out for them too, and we will be certain that the Lord will hear us.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, JUNE 11, 2025

Monday

MARCH 16

Lenten Weekday

Is 65:17-21

Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday

MARCH 17

Lenten Weekday

Ez 47:1-9, 12

Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday

MARCH 18

Lenten Weekday

Is 49:8-15

Jn 5:17-30

Thursday

MARCH 19

St. Joseph, Spouse

of the Blessed

Virgin Mary

2 Sm 7:4-5a,

12-14a, 16

Rom 4:13, 16-18,

22

Mt 1:16, 18-21,

24a or Lk 2:41-

51a

Friday

MARCH 20

Lenten Weekday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22

Jn 7:1-2, 10,

25-30

Saturday

MARCH 21

Lenten Weekday

Jer 11:18-20

Jn 7:40-53

Sunday

MARCH 22

Fifth Sunday

of Lent

Ez 37:12-14

Rom 8:8-11

Jn 11:1-45 or

11:3-7, 17, 20-27,

33b-45