



# Believing Is Seeing

MIGUEL DULICK

**W**e celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring, which is also the first Sunday after Passover. The whole history of the world comes to this point, and today's gospel catches the eternal thrill of that day. A desperate Mary Magdalen cannot find her Lord in the tomb. Thinking that his body has been stolen, she alerts the apostles. Peter and John go running, and a moment of unforgettable suspense follows as first Peter and then John enter the tomb. The details are significant. They saw the burial cloths there and “the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place” (John 20:7). Thieves would not have taken

the time to unwrap the body and fold the face cloth. These details are intended to point to the truth of the resurrection. They saw and believed!

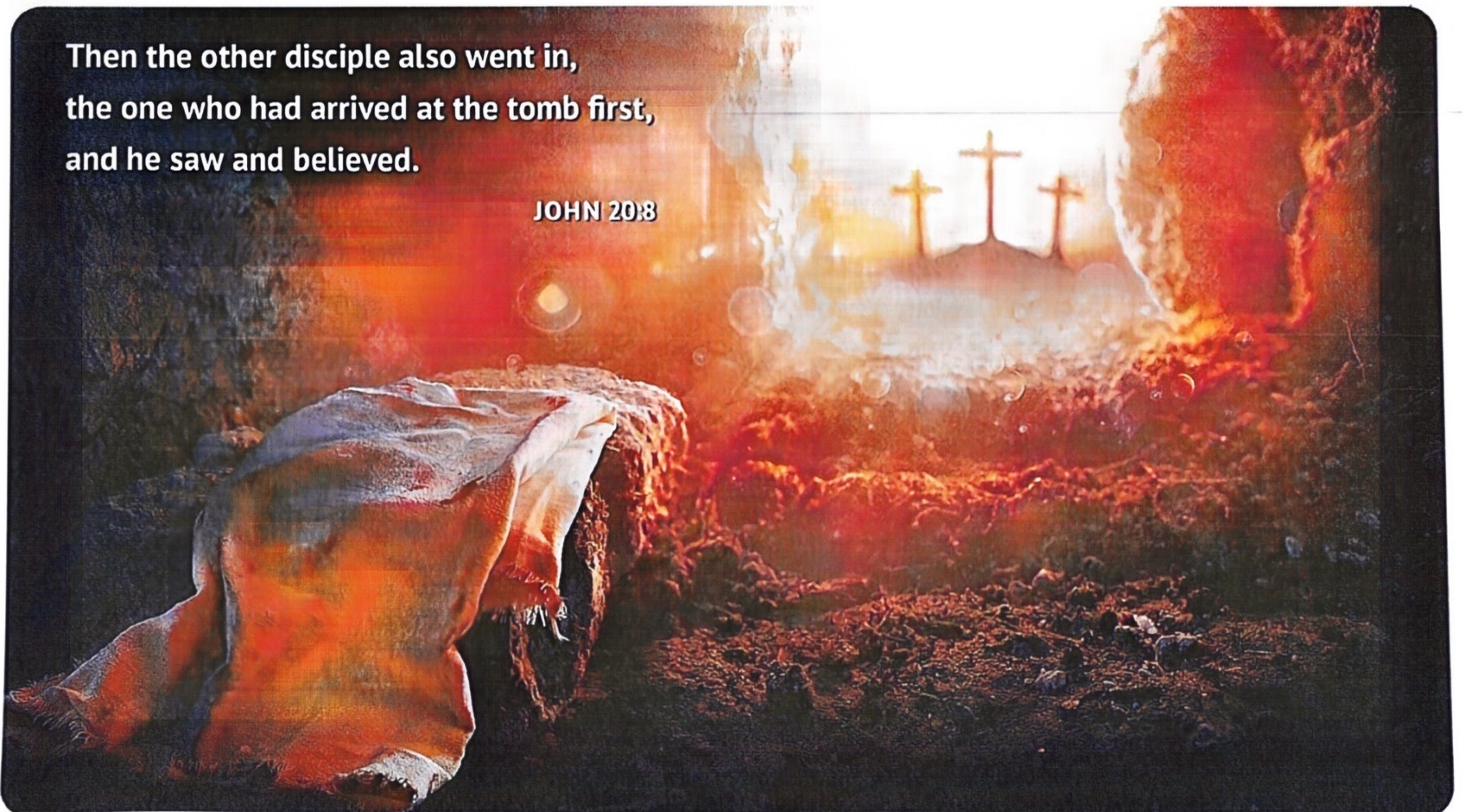
The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles follows the story of the centurion Cornelius, the first prominent pagan convert. (His story is fascinating—take time to read it this week.) Peter gives a speech including a kind of catechism that had been standardized in a formula repeated at least six times in Acts. This proclamation, or *kerygma*, incorporates the message and the motivation for a change of life. God anointed Jesus, raised him from the dead, and promised that all who believe in him will be forgiven their sins and rise with him. Happy Easter! ●

## Reflect

**Why do I believe in the resurrection, and how does my belief impact my life?**

**Then the other disciple also went in,  
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,  
and he saw and believed.**

**JOHN 20:8**



**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](http://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](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://stmichaelscatholicchurch.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 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](mailto:pray4me70@att.net)

**Religious Education C.C.D**  
Lori Templet 856-2261  
[ltemplet2507@yahoo.com](mailto: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 4th – Holy Saturday**

**8 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass** : Brandon and Ellie Kocz  
by: **Mary Kocz**

\*\* Easter Collection only  
\*\*Food Pantry Collection

**Sunday/ April 5th – Easter Sunday**  
**Resurrection of the Lord**

**9 a.m. Holy Easter Mass** : Michael Bystry †  
by : **Rhonda Bystry**

\*\*Easter Collection only  
\*\*Easter Egg Hunt after coffee and donuts  
\*\*Food Pantry Collection

**Monday/April 6th – Octave of Easter**  
**No Holy Mass :**

**Tuesday/ April 7th – Octave of Easter**  
**No Holy Mass :**

**Wednesday/ April 8th – Octave of Easter**  
**No Holy Mass:**

**Thursday / April 9th – Octave of Easter**  
**9 a.m. Holy Mass** : Lauren Kocz  
by: **Mary Kocz**

\*Bingo starts at 6 pm doors open at 5 pm

**Friday/ April 10th – Octave of Easter**  
**9 a.m. Holy Mass** : Margaret Dickey †  
by: **Dickey Family**

**Saturday / April 11th – Octave of Easter**  
**4 p.m. Vigil Mass** : Andy Anderson  
by: **Dean Beardslee**

\* 2<sup>nd</sup> collection Maintenance Fund

**Sunday/ April 12th – Divine Mercy Sunday**  
**9 a.m. Holy Mass** : Ernst Wege  
by: **Jim Wege**



\*2<sup>nd</sup> collection Maintenance Fund  
\*KC Big Breakfast after Holy Mass\*



**Holy Week**

*Give Us The Grace  
And  
The Courage  
To*

*Follow Christ → From Death  
To  
The Resurrection  
From Darkness → To Light*

 **Wishing you a Blessed Week** 



*Collection Report*

**March 28th and March 29th, 2026**

**Main collection : \$2042**

**Catholic Relief Services : \$419**

*Many thanks to you for your sacrificial giving!*

*Could you Not watch one hour with me ?*



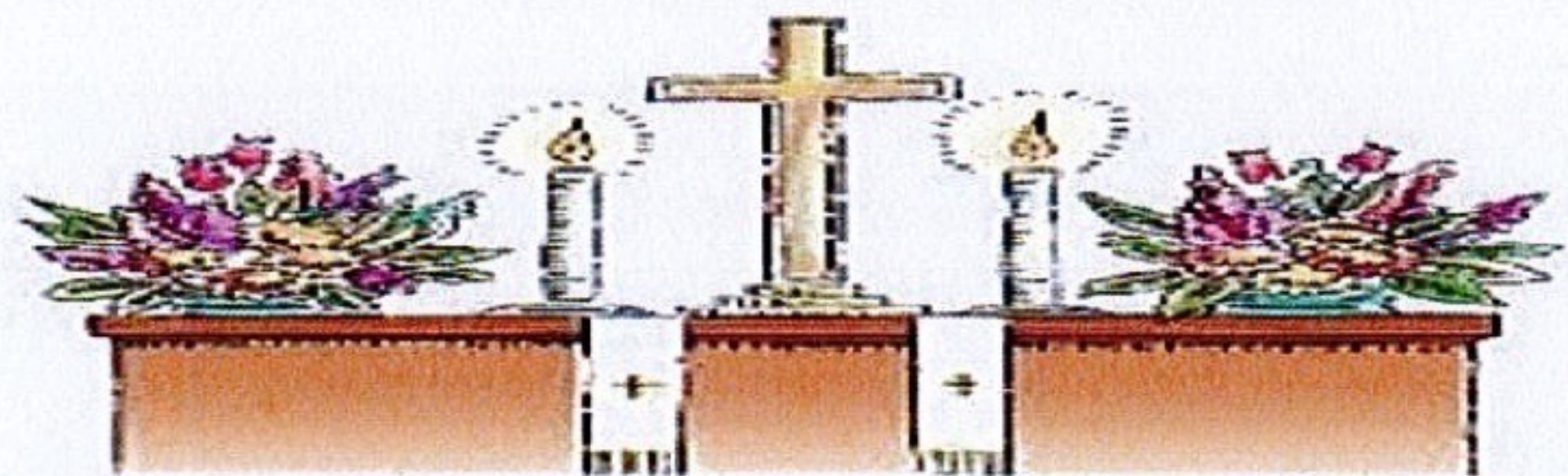
**ADORATION CHAPEL SIGN-UP**

**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:

Karen Burton in memory of her father Zolton Orosz's birthday.

Tabernacle Roses this week are generously provided by:

Karen Burton in memory of her father Zolton Orosz's birthday.

### Easter Weekend

Easter Vigil Holy Mass on Saturday is at 8 PM  
Easter Sunday Holy Mass is at 9 AM

### Congratulations

Scarlet Santa- Catechumen and Candidates  
Phyllis Autry and Shirley Clemons. We want to welcome  
you and are here to support you in your continued  
journey in your faith. Many blessings from all of us.

### Easter Egg Hunt

We will be having the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday April  
5, 2026 for our children ages 3 and up. After coffee and  
donuts.

### KC Big Breakfast

The Knights will be having their big breakfast on Sunday April  
12<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Vacation Bible School

We will have Vacation Bible School this year at St. Michael's.  
Starting Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> and ending with Mass on Wednesday,  
June 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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 Templet at 225-717-0238 or  
email: [ltemplet2507@yahoo.com](mailto:ltemplet2507@yahoo.com)

### Food Pantry Collection

This weekend is the Food Pantry collection, please make sure  
that nothing has been opened or way past the expiration date.  
All canned and package foods are best for the pantry. Thank  
you for helping bless those in need.

### 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, Mary Welch,  
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 4th – Gale Gerundiano
- 🎂 April 4th – Annette Sabado
- 🎂 April 8th – Christina McCoy
- 🎂 April 10th – Marvin Callahan



*We wish you many blessings on your Anniversary!*

♡ No Anniversaries this week

**CD orders for the last Magnificat speaker  
Father Jon Miskin are on sale for \$7.00 each.  
Please, contact Joyce Speir, Lori Templet  
or Linda O'Donnell. For you copy and to pay.  
Thank you !!**

Holy Family Catholic Cemetery  
Burial Plots  
Contact: Bernie Brandenburg

St. Michael's Columbarium  
Payment Plans Available  
Contact: Jim Wege

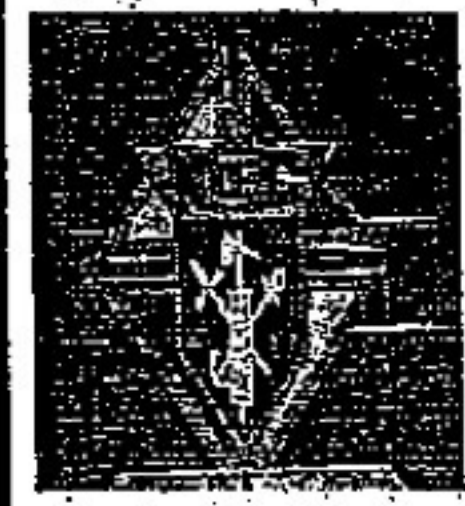
 St. Michael's Parish Hall  
Thursday 6 p.m.  
Doors Open at 5 p.m.  
1st Sunday of the month  
1 p.m. Doors Open at 12 p.m.

# CANYON

CONSTRUCTION

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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.

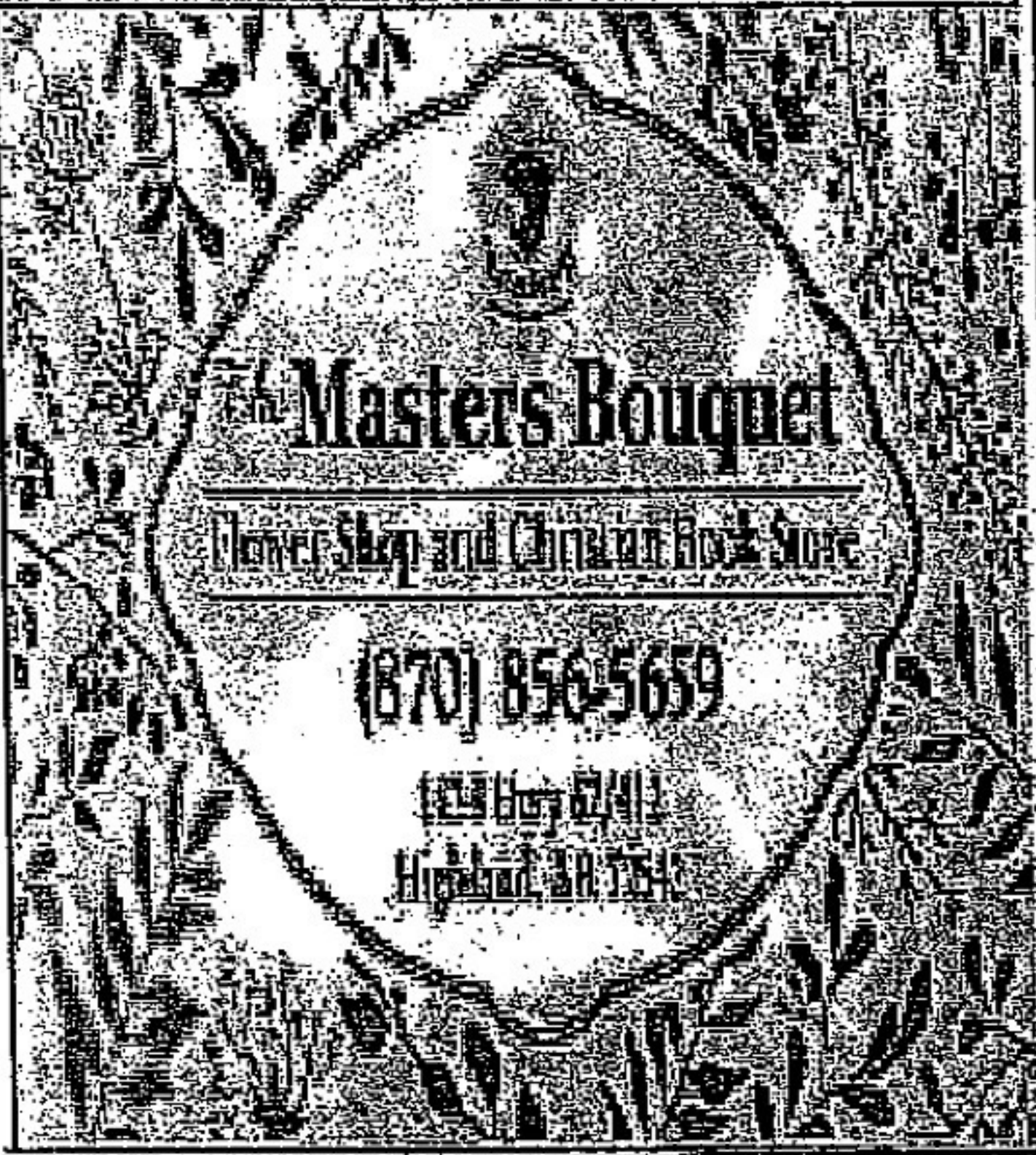
Officers Meeting  
Last Monday of the month  
Rosary 5:30 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.



Fourth Degree  
Patriotic Degree of the order  
FN Michael Gagne (870)751-3419  
Quarterly Business Meeting  
2nd Saturday of the month

 new beginnings  
PREGANACY HELP CENTER  
PREGANACY HELP CENTER

New Beginning  
1438 HWY 62/412  
Highland, AR. 72542  
(870)994-LIFE (5433)  
After Hours Hotline  
1-800-712-HELP (4357)  
TXT Helpline to 313131  
Monday — Thursday open  
10 a.m. — 5 p.m.  
Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday



**Masters Bouquet**  
Flower Shop and Christmas Book Store  
(870) 856-5659  
1540 Hwy 62/412  
Highland, AR 72542

## TRI-COUNTY FUNERAL HOME

Compassion and Guidance  
when needed most  
**(870) 856-2705**  
tricityfuneralhome@yahoo.com

Physical Address  
1540 Highway 62-412  
Highland, AR 72542

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

only on-site crematory  
In Sharp County

 White River Health

Caring Beyond Healthcare

195 Hospital Drive  
Cherokee Village, AR 72525  
870-257-6000


*"A sincere personal service"*

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C. J. Wurtham, Prop.

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3079 Highway 62 West  
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DOUG WURTHAM, President  
(870) 856-5636  
wurthamfuneralhome.com

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Funeral Directors  
with over  
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Highland, AR 72542  
870-856-5636  
Serving Catholic families in  
Northeast Arkansas  
since 1945

 **BOOTLEGGERS**

LIFE IS BREWITFUL

(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  
Horseshoe Bend AR.72512  
(870) 670-5896

# Dear Padre,

***I'm marrying my girlfriend! Although she grew up Catholic, she doesn't practice the faith. Is it still OK to marry her?***

Will you enter marriage with your fiancée because of a mutual love for each other? Do you both understand that this love will be strengthened by the sacramental grace of your matrimonial union, a grace you will receive because of baptism, not practice? Will you both try to create a loving family and, together as a family, try to be open each day to the grace of God already at work in your lives? Do you both realize that this grace calls you to create, in the name of Jesus, a witness to the truth of the gospel, which is even more powerful than the love you share?

If you hesitate to answer any of these questions with a wholehearted “yes,” then consider exploring these questions together with your pastor or another person helping to prepare you for marriage. Perfect faith is not required for a good, sacramental marriage. Openness to faith is believing that the Lord who has brought you together is not yet finished with either of you. You both have more to learn, and, with God’s grace, you will respond to his love. Jesus will work through both of you in ways that you may not even be able to imagine. In that spirit, marry her, build a life together, and know that God’s plan for you will always be there. ●

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



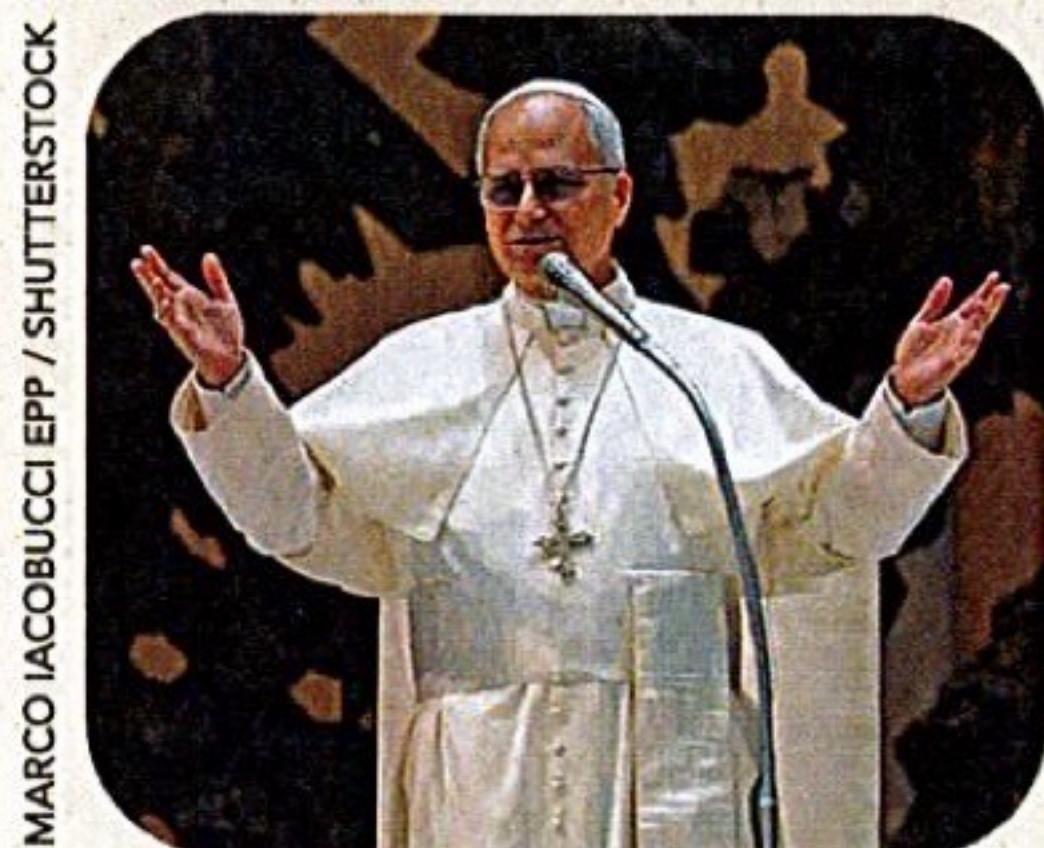
FUNDA DEMIRKAYA / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

***Holy Saturday...is the day in which heaven visits earth most deeply. It is the time in which every corner of human history is touched by the light of Easter.... Nothing can be excluded from [Christ's] redemption. Not even our nights, not even our oldest faults, not even our broken bonds. There is no past so ruined, no history so compromised***

***that it cannot be touched by mercy.***

**GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, SEPTEMBER 24, 2025**



MARCO IACOBUCCI EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### Monday

April 6  
*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 2:14, 22-33  
Mt 28:8-15

### Tuesday

April 7  
*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 2:36-41  
Jn 20:11-18

### Wednesday

April 8  
*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 3:1-10  
Lk 24:13-35

### Thursday

April 9  
*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 3:11-26  
Lk 24:35-48

### Friday

April 10  
*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 4:1-12  
Jn 21:1-14

### Saturday

April 11  
*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 4:13-21  
Mk 16:9-15

### Sunday

April 12  
*Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)*  
Acts 2:42-47  
1 Pt 1:3-9  
Jn 20:19-31