



Blessings of Many Shapes

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

It is always a blessed and holy occasion when parents bring their child to the parish church for baptism. They gather family and friends and proudly present their child to both God and the faith community. Somewhere in the midst of it all, they will wonder who their child will become, what their child's gifts and talents will be, and what hopes and dreams their child will have. Yet like Simeon, who blessed the Holy Family in the Temple, they will also realize that life is not always favorable to us. As Simeon foretold, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many...and you yourself a sword will pierce" (Luke 2:34–35).

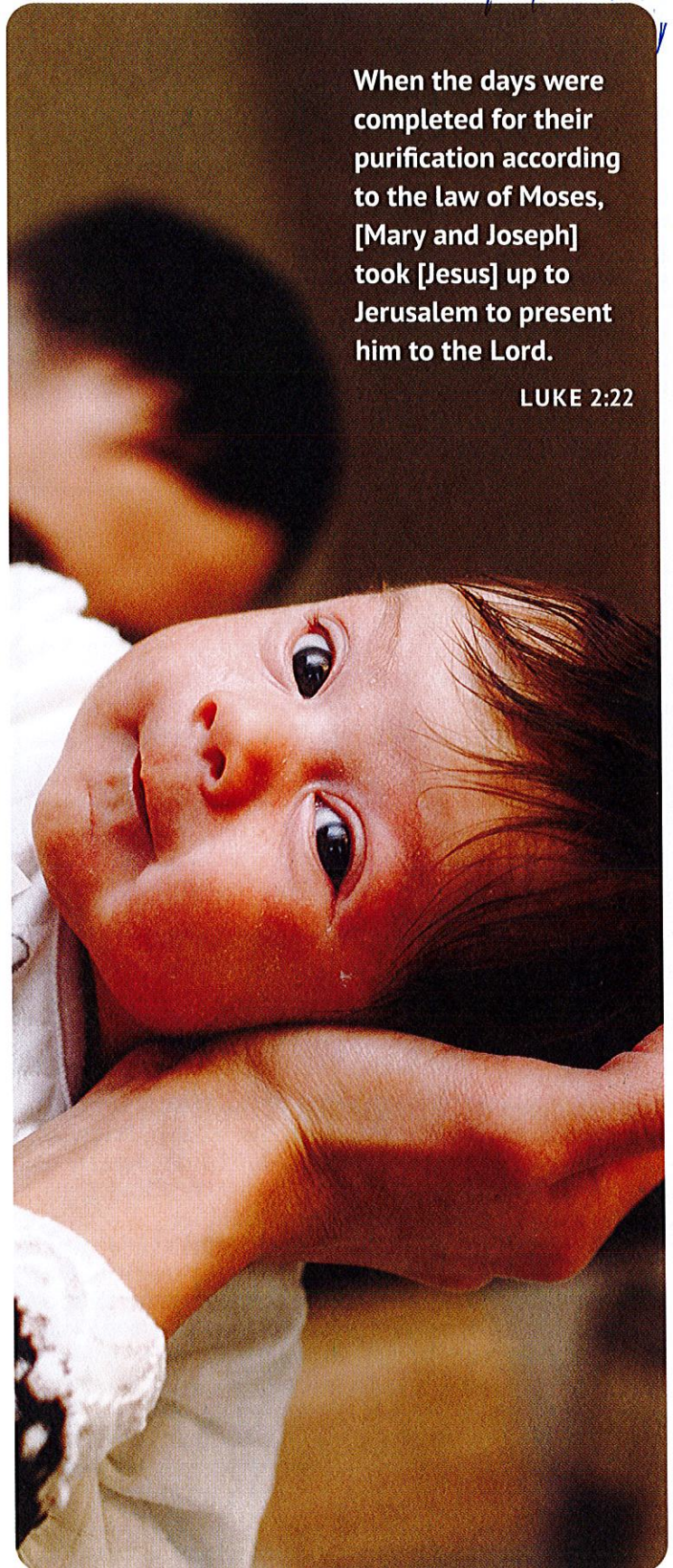
Although we recognize that suffering is a part of everyone's life, and we would never wish it upon a child, we might hope that the child does not run from every suffering, for it becomes the path to wisdom and compassion—perhaps the only path. We might also wish on the child a bit of loneliness, for it teaches us to treasure friends. And amid hoping for the blessing of success, losing can also be a gift and a blessing, for it is how we learn to deal with failure and understand the important lesson that we cannot always have our own way. Failure can be the seed of humility. Fortunately, while doing our best as parents, we must allow God to decide how our children will be blessed and what will nurture their growth into the image of Jesus. We simply present them to God from whom they came. ●

Reflect

Call to mind someone you love deeply and remind yourself that God loves him or her even more.

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] took [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

LUKE 2:22



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.



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.

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 lttemplet2507@yahoo.com 856-2261

St. Vincent dePaul

Help Line 257-3448

Altar / Flower Decorator

Pam MacAulay 847-6742

NEW PARISHIONERS

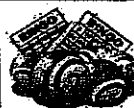
Welcome to St. Michael's! We're glad you're here. Please introduce yourself to Fr. Amal, and register by completing a registration form, then kindly return it to the Church Office. Get involved! Volunteer! Let us share with each other our God-given talents, love, and service to our neighbors.

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

CANYON
CONSTRUCTION

PO Box 295 | Ash Flat, AR 72513
870.994.7472 | CanyonBuilds.com

**Build Boldly
Commercial
Residential
Excavation**



**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**
PREGNANCY 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



**White River
Health**

Caring Beyond Healthcare

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


The Masters Bouquet
Flower Shop and Christian Book Store
(870) 856-5659
3075 Hwy 62/412 Highland, AR 72542
highlandflorist.com

"A sincere personal service"



Worthington
Funeral Home
P.O. Box 671

P.O. Box 671
3079 Highway 412 West
Hardy, Arkansas 72542

DOUG WORTHINGTON, President
(870) 856-5658
worthingtonfuneralhome.com

Family Owned & Operated

We are third generation
Funeral Directors
with over

130 years of experience
3079 Highway 62/412
Highland, AR 72542
(870) 856-5636

Serving Catholic families in
Northeast Arkansas
since 1945

**Tri-County
Funeral Home**

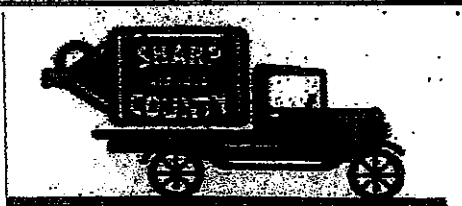
Compassion and Guidance
when needed most

870-856-2705

Physical Address
1540 Highway 62/412
Highland, AR 72542

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

Only on-site crematory
In Sharp County



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
Horseshoe Bend AR. 72512
(870) 670-5896

Dear Padre,

What happened to Candlemas? When I was a child, there was one day when everyone brought candles to church to have them blessed. At the end of Mass, the priest would bless everyone's throats with the candles.

Candlemas is another name for our celebration of the Presentation of the Lord: the day Mary and Joseph presented their child to God in the Temple at Jerusalem in accordance with the law of Moses (Luke 2:22–38). We remember how the elderly believers Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus as their longed-for Messiah and how, addressing God in a canticle, Simeon proclaimed Christ to be “a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel” (Luke 2:32).

Mass on this day often begins with the blessing and lighting of candles, which the priest and people carry into the church. The name Candlemas springs from this ritual blessing.

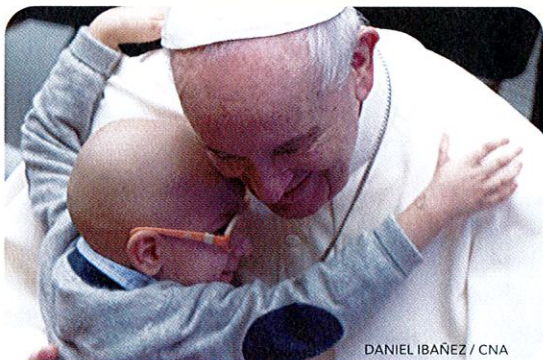
The day after the feast of the Presentation is the memorial celebration of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr. According to tradition, St. Blaise was instrumental in healing a person who was choking. The Church remembers this encounter and celebrates the intervention of the Spirit of God through the blessing of throats, using the blessed candles from the feast of the Presentation. It is a wonderful and very practical spiritual practice that is much appreciated and anticipated each year. ●

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
February 3	February 4	February 5	February 6	February 7	February 8	February 9
Weekday	Weekday	St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr	St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs	Weekday	Weekday	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Heb 11:32–40	Heb 12:1–4	Heb 12:4–7, 11–15	Heb 12:18–19, 21–24	Heb 13:1–8	Heb 13:15–17, 20–21	Is 6:1–2a, 3–8
Mk 5:1–20	Mk 5:21–43	Mk 6:1–6	Mk 6:7–13	Mk 6:14–29	Mk 6:30–34	1 Cor 15:1–11 or 15:3–8, 11
						Lk 5:1–11



DANIEL IBÁÑEZ / CNA

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Like Simeon, let us also pick up this child, the God of newness and surprises.... Let us be restless, let us be moved by the Spirit, like Simeon and Anna.... If, like them, we live in expectation, we will embrace Jesus, who is the light and hope of life.

HOMILY, ROME, FEBRUARY 2, 2024