



## Embrace the Darkness

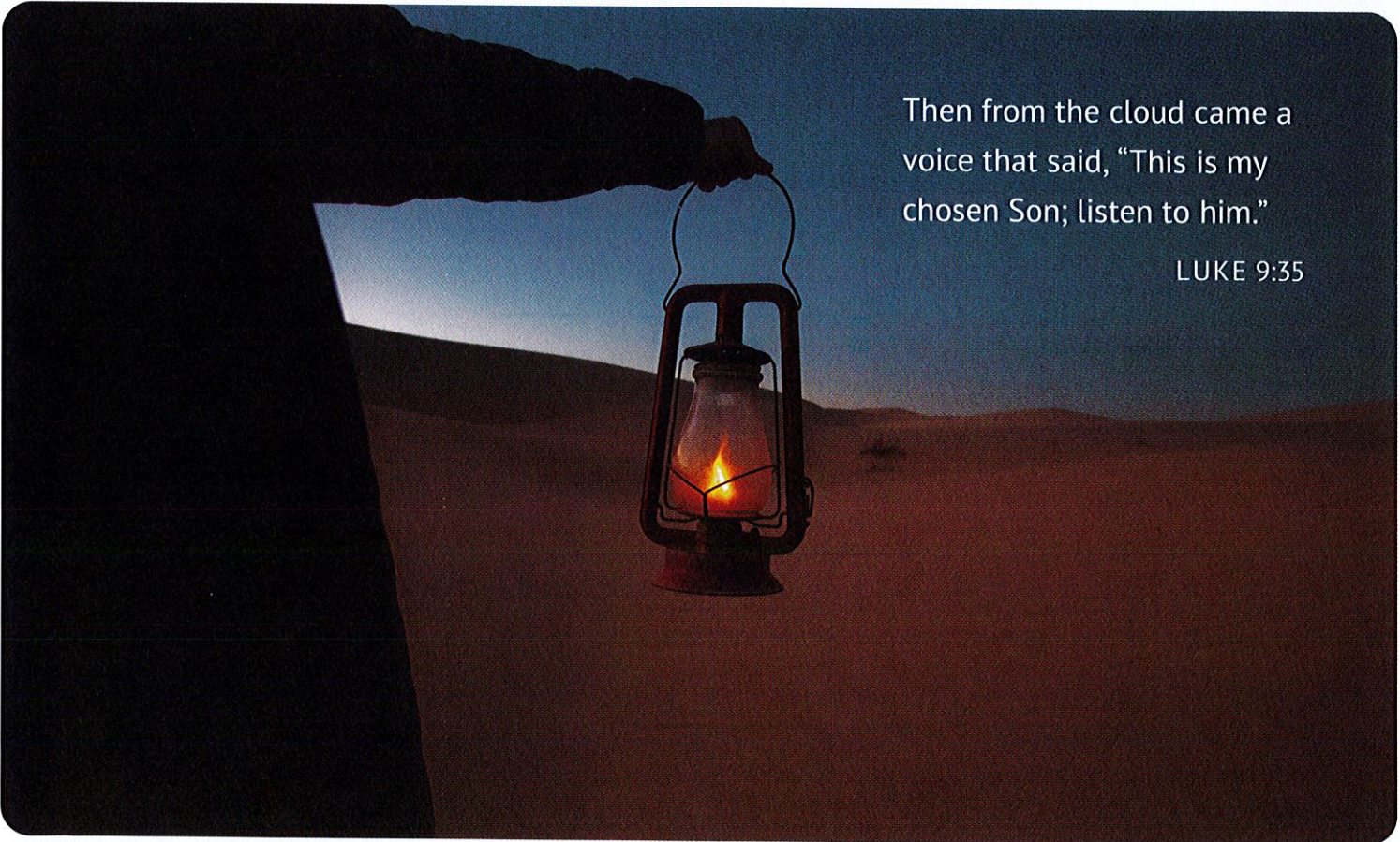
FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**T**he darkness can be unsettling. As a child, my nightly bedtime ritual included checking beneath my bed as well as in the dark hall closet. One could never know what denizens of harm might be lurking there, hidden in the shadows. As adults, the darkness we fear is no longer what lies hidden about our home. Rather, the darkness we attempt to escape is the unknown forces that have the power to overturn our lives. It is the death of someone we love that plunges us into fear and loss, forcing us to somehow make our way, alone and unsure. It is the frightening medical diagnosis that has the ability to dismantle our planned future. It is the financial security that dissolves before our very eyes. In such darkness, we grope blindly to find our way.

### Reflect

*When has life's darkness brought me to a new and deeper faith in God?*

The Book of Genesis notes that a trance came upon Abram, a terrifying darkness that enveloped him. The gospel relays how Peter, James, and John became frightened atop Mt. Tabor when they found themselves in a cloud that obscured their sight. Yet, the darkness became for each of them a place in which they came to know their God in a totally new way; it set them on a new path of faith. It is then that we, too, are forced to surrender trust in our own wisdom. Unable to see clearly what is in store for us, we can only rely on a new path, trusting that we will be accompanied by our God. ●



Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him."

LUKE 9:35



# 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.

**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](mailto:pray4me70@att.net) 751-3420

### Religious Education C.C.D

Lori Templet [lttemplet2507@yahoo.com](mailto: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

*"A sincere personal service"*



## Wortham Funeral Home

Est. 1904

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

DOUG WORTHAM, President  
(870) 856-5636  
worthamfuneralhome.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



## 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

## Tri-County Funeral Home

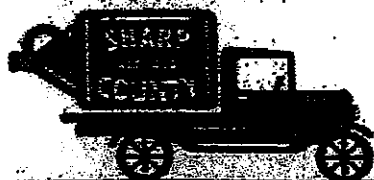
Compassion and Guidance  
when needed most

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



# Dear Padre,

*Does the Church teach how we should dress to go to Mass?  
Maybe I'm just old-fashioned, but the way some people dress  
seems very disrespectful.*

Church teaching, dogmas, doctrines, and creedal formulations are not the specific resources to consult in order to answer this question. It is properly a matter of discipline and practice, although the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* does direct that “bodily demeanor (gestures, clothing) ought to convey respect” (1387). There are many commentaries on what exactly “respect” might mean.

It would be very difficult to establish a universal dress code. The many different cultures, climates, and particular circumstances of a specific Catholic community make a dress code unmanageable. It seems that you judge the local practice not up to your standards. Your judgment may be correct, or you may have unreasonable expectations. There was a time when “Sunday best” was the established norm. In other communities, the expectation would be “business casual” as a bare minimum. Now, it seems standards and practices are very fluid and flexible. All of this being said, it is ultimately a pastoral concern, not doctrinal or dogmatic. Try not to allow how other people dress distract you from your purpose at Mass. While they may not look like you imagine they should, their prayer might be genuine and heartfelt. ●



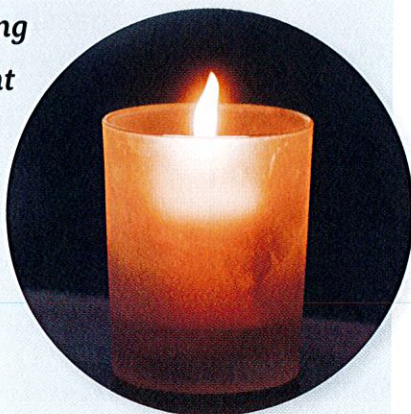
BRICOLAGE / SHUTTERSTOCK

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

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*After the labors of each day, it will do  
us good not to switch off the light in the  
room without placing  
ourselves in the light  
of God.... Wonder  
at the boundless  
love of God, who  
never tires of us  
and has the power  
to transfigure our  
days, to give them a new  
meaning, a new, unexpected light.*

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 13, 2022



### Monday

March 17

*Lenten Weekday*

Dn 9:4b–10

Lk 6:36–38

### Tuesday

March 18

*Lenten Weekday*

Is 1:10, 16–20

Mt 23:1–12

### Wednesday

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

### Thursday

March 20

*Lenten Weekday*

Jer 17:5–10

Lk 16:19–31

### Friday

March 21

*Lenten Weekday*

Gn 37:3–4, 12–

13a, 17b–28a

Mt 21:33–43,

45–46

### Saturday

March 22

*Lenten Weekday*

Mi 7:14–15, 18–20

Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

### Sunday

March 23

*Third Sunday of*

*Lent*

Ex 3:1–8a, 13–15

1 Cor 10:1–6,

10–12

Lk 13:1–9

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

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