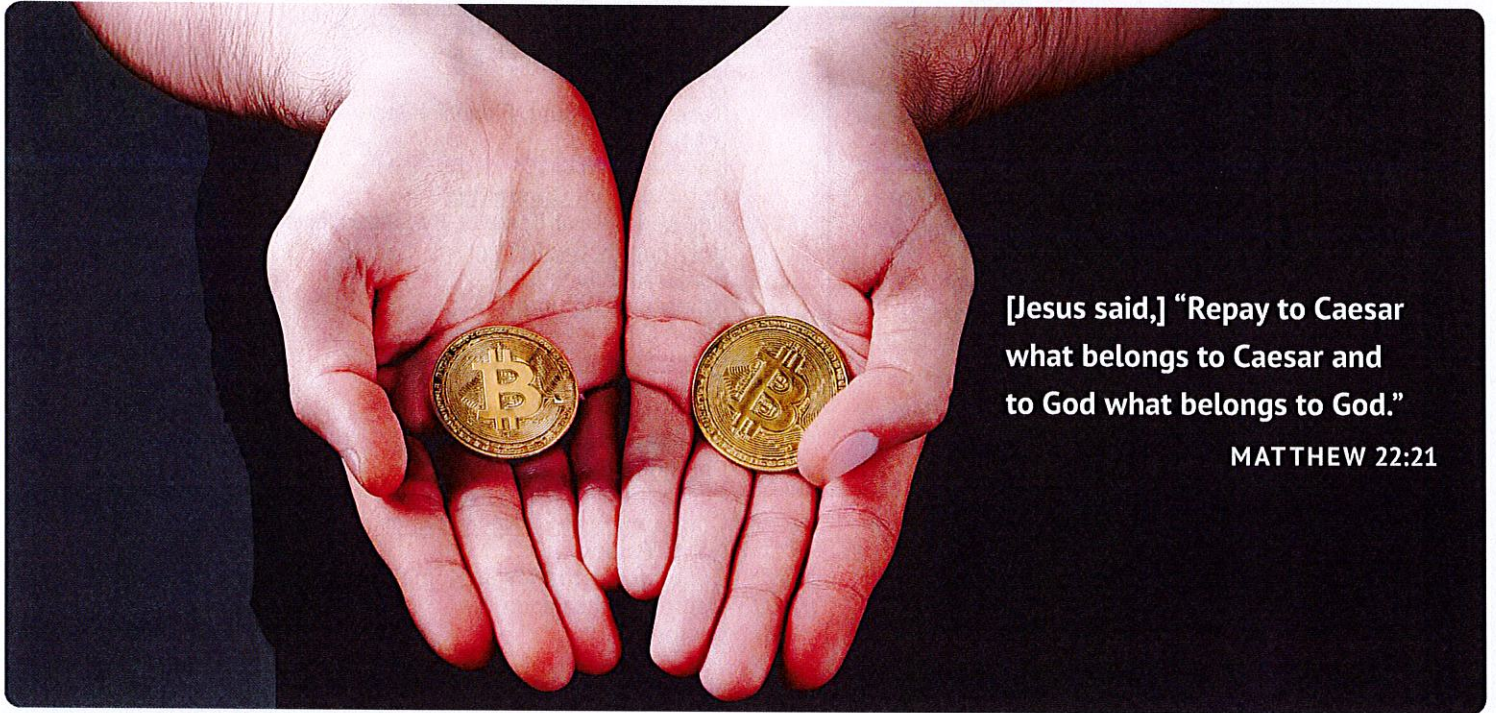




[Jesus said,] “Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.”

MATTHEW 22:21

Sidestepping Side-taking

ANN M. GARRIDO

Jesus had to know something was up when both the Pharisees and the Herodians approached him together. Pharisees and Herodians were never together. Herodians survived by cooperating with the Roman Empire. The Pharisees found such cooperation an affront to God’s law.

“Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?” they asked. It was a trap. If he answered “no,” the Herodians could report him to the Romans for fomenting rebellion. If he answered “yes,” the crowd watching would see Jesus as a sellout to an unpopular foreign power. But Jesus did not take the bait. He refused to give a “yes” or a “no,” instead allowing onlookers to see that his Pharisee and Herodian challengers were carrying the Roman coin in their pockets—hence participating in the Roman economy—whereas he did not even possess the coin they were asking about. He was living and working for a different ruler altogether. Their question was outside his realm of concern.

So often we, too, can find ourselves trapped in heated political conversations where questions are asked in such a way that they seem to allow only a yes-or-no answer. The askers want to reveal, “Are you with us or are you against us?” as if there are no other options. As followers of Jesus, we know that there are issues of ultimate concern for us—“battle hills worth dying on.” Jesus himself had one: Calvary. But Jesus himself did not feel as if he needed to take a stand on every hot political issue of his day. Sometimes he sidestepped those conversations. So can we.●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

When confronted, do I prefer to “take the bait” or find common ground?

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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.arkansasatholic.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://stmichaelscatholicchurch.org>

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Amal Raju Lourduwamy Punganoor
Parish Secretary: Rhonda Bystry
Office Email: stmichaelsoffice22@yahoo.com
Bookkeeper: Rose Brandenburg
Email: stmichaelscv@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 I

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

Jason Sabado (Grand Knight) 412-477-7946

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 / October 17th – St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop

4 p.m. Vigil Mass : Bernard and Evelyn Gagne † and Lee and Mary Stuck †

by: Michael and Kathy Gagne

****2nd Collection- Respect Human Life**

Sunday/ October 18th – Twenty-ninth Sunday

9 a.m. Holy Mass : John Michael Bystry †

by: Rhonda Bystry

****2nd Collection- Respect Human Life**

***The Rosary at 5 pm**

Monday/ October 19th – St. John de Brebeuf and

St. Issac Jogues, Priests and Martyrs

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Rose Brandenburg

By: Bernie Brandenburg

Tuesday/ October 20th – St. Paul of the Cross, Priest

No Holy Mass

Wednesday/October 21st – Weekday

No Holy Mass

***Altar Society card party- at noon**

Thursday/ October 22nd – St. John Paul I, Pope

No Holy Mass

***Bingo doors open at 4:30 pm games at 6 pm**

Friday/ October 23rd – St. John of Capistrano, Priest

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Joe and Doris Waggoner

by: The Waggoner Family

Saturday / October 24th – St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop

4 p.m. Vigil Mass: Rubin Chavez †

by: Doris Waggoner

****2nd Collection- World Mission Sunday**

***Anointing of the Sick after Holy Mass**

Sunday/ October 25th – Thirtieth Sunday

9 a.m. Holy Mass : Virgil and Mae Smith †

by: Tom and JoAnn Helfert

****2nd Collection- World Mission Sunday**

***Anointing of the Sick after Holy Mass**

***Youth Mass**

***The Rosary at 5 pm**

Thought for the week

"Repay to Caesar to What belongs to Caesar, and to God What belongs to God Mt.22:21"

29th Sun- A

The World 🌍

Mission Sunday

Oct. 18.2026

Jesus entrusted a mission to his apostles before his Ascension: 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations."-Mt.28:19

St. Theresa of Child St. Francis Xavier Pray for Us 🙏

Why We Celebrate??

1. To obey the Commandment Of Jesus Christ
2. To Remember That The Salvation in Christ is Offered To All People
3. To Support The Missionary Church To Proclaim Christ to Others

"We Come To Mass To Receive Christ, We go To Live and To Give Christ"

🙏 **Wishing you a Blessed Week** 🙏



Collection Report

October 10th and 11th, 2026

Main Collection \$ 3782.00

Maintenance Fund \$831.00

Thank you for your sacrificial giving !

Could you Not watch one hour with me ?

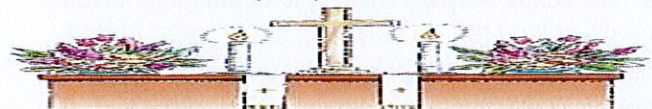


ADORATION CHAPEL SIGN-UP

Available Adoration

Rose, (870) 847-5018, or

Anne, (870) 847-1985



God Bless the Donors and their Intentions.

Altar Flowers are generously provided by: Joe and Doris Waggoner in honor of their Wedding Anniversary.

Tabernacle Roses are generously provided by Rhonda Bystry in memory of her husband, John Michael Bystry.

October Rosary

We will be having The Rosary at 5 pm every Sunday in the month of October here at St. Michael's.
Bring your Rosary and join us.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Our Youth Ministry Program will be every Wednesday, after the 6 p.m. Mass. We will follow last year's protocol of a meal and then teaching. **If anyone in the parish would like to prepare a meal this year while classes are held, please let either Greta Ishmael or Lori Templet know.** Thank you for your generosity!

St. Monica Prayer Group

Meets every 1st Thursday of every month after 9 am Holy Mass in the church library. Please come join them to pray for our children and families.

Magnificat Fundraiser

Sunday November 1st, after the 9 am Holy Mass the Magnificat Team will have a **Fundraiser Breakfast** here at St. Michael's parish hall. This fundraiser will help to defray the cost of the International Magnificat Conference that is held every year. The expense of going is quite costly. Anyone wishing to donate their favorite breakfast food to help us will be greatly appreciated. Please, let Lori Templet know by emailing ltemplet2507@yahoo or you can text ph#225-7107-0238 if you plan to provide a dish. **Thank you for your generosity!**

World Mission Sunday

The 2nd collection on October 24th and 25th will be the special collection mandated by canon law and taken up in ever parish throughout the world. These funds support the Pope's missionary efforts throughout the world. This weekend is also to cultivate a missionary spirit amongst all the baptized in our diocese.



Fr. Daniel Brandenburg, Bernie Brandenburg, Robert Butner, Nell Kihm, Jack Heuser, Crystal Hawkins, Jim Wege, Isabelle Wiest, Michael and Martha DeCoster, Larry Allen, Steve Allen, Georgia Harris, Dan Such, Dawn Logan, Sister Joy Wege, Tim and Betty Eash, Jimmy White, Gail Demarest, Nico Woode, Ray McHugh, Tim Starken, Marcella Birkhead, Jean Marie Henricks, Michael Reddick, Colleen Royal, Gerald and Carol Metty, Darren Bates, Joseph Huff, Maryann Barber, Jackie LeBeau, Darrell and Elizabeth Beason, Toni Travline and Doug and Tammy Wortham.
Nursing Home:
Ruth Klinge, KayLynn Rodenbeck, Timothy Huff and Chuck Wolff.

We wish you many blessings on your Birthday!

October 18th – Brady Bates
October 19th – Gale Orosz
October 20th – Rose Brandenburg
October 23rd – Sandra Butler



We wish you many blessings on your Anniversary!

♡ Mike and Kathy Gagne ♡
56 years on October 17th

♡ Joe and Doris Waggoner ♡
49 years on October 21st

♡ Aric and Samantha Eichhorn ♡
12 years on October 24th

To Learn More About the Creation and the Fall of Man

Source: Collected from The New Saint Joseph Baltimore Catechism, No. 2, Official Revised Edition

Page 17

Creation

1. What is man?

Man is a creature composed of body and soul, and made to the image and likeness of God.

2. Is this likeness to God in the body or in the soul?

This likeness to God is chiefly in the soul. The likeness to the blessed Trinity is found chiefly in man's soul, but there is a resemblance in the body too – not, however in the body of one man alone, but in man and woman united in marriage and the child which is the normal fruit of the marriage.

"God created man in His image. In the image of God He created him. Male and female He created them. Then God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply'". *Gen. 1:27-28*

3. How is the soul like God?

The soul is like God because it is a spirit having understanding and free will, and is destined to live forever.

4. Who were the first man and woman?

The first man and woman were Adam and Eve, the first parents of the whole human race.

5. Is it possible that there are intelligent beings created by God on other planets of the universe?

Yes; it is possible that there are intelligent beings created by God on other planets of the universe, because God's power is unlimited.

6. What was the chief gift bestowed on Adam and Eve by God?

The chief gift bestowed on Adam and Eve by God was sanctifying grace, which made them children of God and gave them the right to heaven.

7. What other gifts were bestowed on Adam and Eve by God?

The other gifts were happiness in the Garden of Paradise, great knowledge, control of the passions by reason, and freedom from suffering and death. Great knowledge: Adam and Eve had knowledge poured into their minds by God. They did not have to study or go to school. Control of the passions by reason: Passions are emotions in the soul, such as anger, fear, hatred, desire, joy, sorrow, etc. Adam and Eve would not become angry unless they wanted to. They would never be afraid of anything unless they wanted to. They would never cry unless they wanted to. Freedom from suffering and death: There would be no sickness, weakness, weariness, or bodily discomfort. They would not have to go to the dentist, take castor oil, or go to the hospital. When they finished their time on earth they would go to heaven without dying.

8. What commandment did God give Adam and Eve?

God gave Adam and Eve the commandment not to eat of the fruit of a certain tree that grew in the Garden of Paradise. It was not a real fruit, but a symbol of some pleasure God forbade them to test their love for Him.

9. Did Adam and Eve obey the commandment of God?

They did not obey the commandment of God, but ate of the forbidden fruit.

10. What happened to Adam and Eve on account of their sin?

On account of their sin Adam and Eve lost sanctifying grace, the right to heaven, and their special gifts; they became subject to death, to suffering, and to a strong inclination to evil, and they were driven from the Garden of Paradise.

God's Command

1. Do not eat of the tree of good and evil, lest you die.
2. God loved Adam and Eve and wanted to keep them from harm.
3. Adam and Eve disobeyed God and did their own will.

The Devil's Temptation

1. If you eat this fruit, you shall be as gods.
2. The devil, symbolized by the serpent, said: "Don't love God, love yourselves. Be your own will. What God says is too difficult."
3. The gate to heaven was closed. Adam and Eve Lost their gifts and the friendship of God.

11. What has happened to us on account of the sin of Adam?

We, his descendants come into the world deprived of sanctifying grace and inherit his punishment, as we would have inherited his gifts had he been obedient to God.

12. What is this sin in us called?

It is called original sin.

13. Why is this sin called original?

This sin is called original because it comes down to us through our origin, or descent, from Adam.

14. What are the chief punishments of Adam which we inherit through original sin?

We inherit through original sin the punishments of: death, suffering, ignorance, and a strong inclination to sin.

15. Is God unjust in punishing us on account of the sin of Adam?

God is not unjust in punishing us on account of the sin of Adam, because original sin does not take away from us anything to which we have a strict right as human beings, but only the free gifts which God in His goodness would have bestowed on us if Adam had not sinned.

God's Gifts to Us

1. Grace
2. Great knowledge
3. Control of passions by reason
4. Freedom from sickness and death

The Devil's Gifts to Us

1. Original Sin
2. Ignorance
3. A strong inclination to sin
4. Suffering and death

16. Was any human person ever preserved from original sin?

The Blessed Virgin Mary was preserved from original sin in view of the merits of her Divine Son; and this privilege is called her Immaculate Conception. Our Lady is so different from us. We have sin, but she did not. But she feels sorry for us. The healing waters of Lourdes are a sign of her love for us and her desire to help us in our troubles.

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870-994-2744

St. Michael's Columbarium

Payment Plans Available
Contact: Jim Wege
870-847-3396

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1st Sunday of the month
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Officers Meeting
Last Monday of the month
Rosary 5:30 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.



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Patriotic Degree of the order
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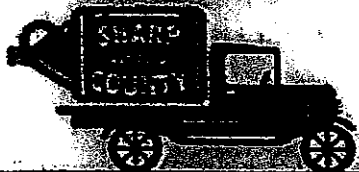
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Adoration after Friday Mass

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

Dear Padre,

What does it mean when it says we're in Cycle A or B or C? Or Years I and II?

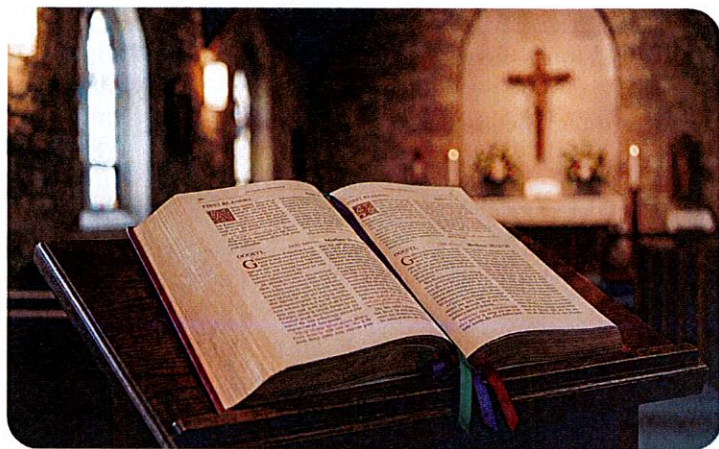
When the bishops of the Church at the Second Vatican Council in 1963 called for a revision of our liturgy, they asked that “The treasures of the Bible...be opened up more lavishly, so that richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God’s word. In this way, a more representative portion of the holy Scriptures will be read to the people in the course of a prescribed number of years” (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, 51).

At Sunday Masses, the Scriptures are divided up over three years (called Years A, B, and C). At these Masses, the gospel is the primary reading. The first reading, taken from the Old Testament, and the responsorial psalm touch upon the same theme as the gospel. In the Easter season, the first reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles. The second reading follows consecutive passages from the letters of Paul or the other apostles, independent of the other readings.

At weekday Masses, most of the Bible is read over a period of two years. Odd-numbered years are Year I, and even-numbered years are Year II.

All of this should help us open those treasures that the Church says are ours in the Scriptures. ●

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSsR / DearPadre.org



Monday

October 19
Sts. John de
Brébeuf and
Isaac Jogues,
Priests, and
Companions,
Martyrs
Eph 2:1-10
Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday

October 20
Weekday
Eph 2:12-22
Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday

October 21
Weekday
Eph 3:2-12
Lk 12:39-48

Thursday

October 22
Weekday
Eph 3:14-21
Lk 12:49-53

Friday

October 23
Weekday
Eph 4:1-6
Lk 12:54-59

Saturday

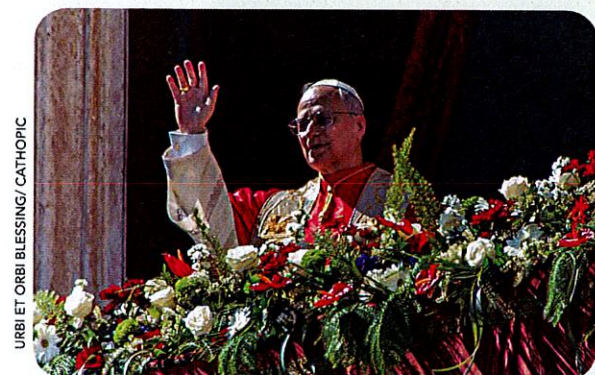
October 24
Weekday
Eph 4:7-16
Lk 13:1-9

Sunday

October 25
Thirtieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Ex 22:20-26
1 Thes 1:5c-10
Mt 22:34-40

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Today let us ask Mary, Mother of the Church, to be able to serve, with Jesus and like Jesus, those men and women thirsting for truth and justice. This is not the time for opposition between one church and another, between “us” and “them”—those who worship God seek to be men and women of peace, who worship him in Spirit and in truth.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 8, 2026

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