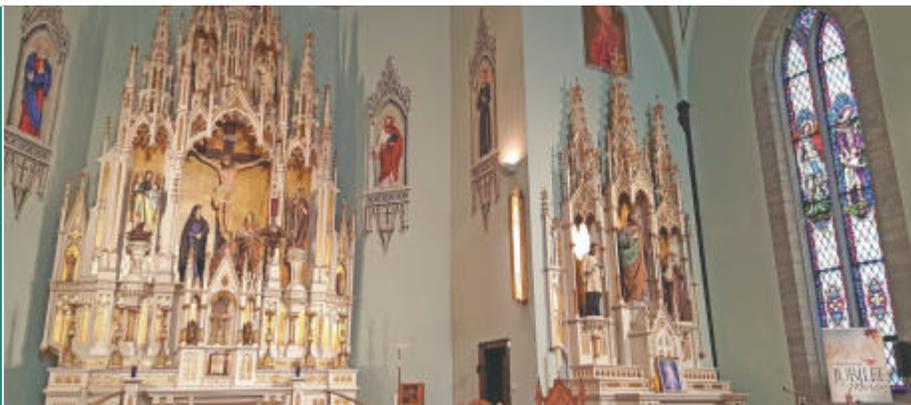


# ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

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Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary



AUGUST 1, 2021

• EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ~ *John 6:32-33*



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## WHY DO WE DO THAT?

### What can I do to help our family practice our faith each day?

Some families practice their religion together as just another event on their schedule: go to church, observe Lent, help at the parish picnic, go to a meeting, volunteer time, make your confession, use your envelope... But the focus needs to be on who we are—God's people, in relationship with him, loved, forgiven, and redeemed, and called to live and proclaim the Gospel. Our awareness of God's presence and our sense of mission are supported by the daily rituals, celebrations, and traditions that help us stay focused. Sharing our faith strengthens us and clarifies the beliefs and values of Christian living. Daily family practices include time for prayer—before meals, before bed, before important meetings and activities. Attend Sunday Mass together and discuss the homily afterward. Create family celebrations for holy days and holidays. Make religion a regular part of your discussions. Include others, especially the elderly and the less fortunate, in your activities and charitable efforts. By applying the virtues of faith, hope, and love to each day, faith becomes part of who your family is. It influences how you act towards others, what you value, and how mindful of God you are. Faith is the leaven of life that helps all of us rise to our calling and dignity as God's people.

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## CATHOLIC TRIVIA JUST FOR FUN

How many books are in the New Testament?

- a. 34
- b. 27
- c. 56
- d. 18

Answer is on the calendar page.

### Practicing Graciousness in the Desert

Looking back over my journey of parenthood, I know there were days when I traveled the extra mile for my children. I made their toast the way they like it, let them play in the park an extra ten minutes, or let them go to the movies with their friends and I finished up the chores on my own. And then, it happened: the attitude. The request for the smallest thing from one of them is met with disdain or bewilderment.

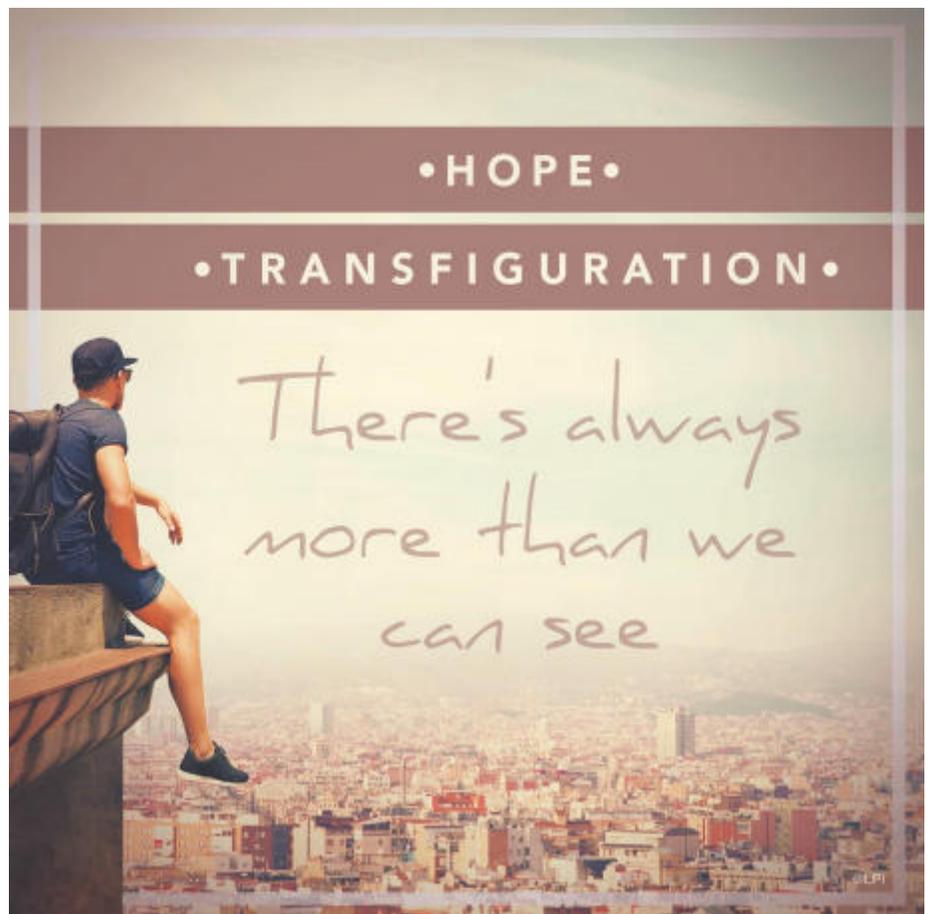
Sometimes you can be made breathless with the ingratitude of another person who takes so much and with so little shame, only to scoff at the idea that they, too, give even the smallest amount.

But if we're being honest with ourselves, we will admit that we do the exact same thing to God. Haven't we all been the Israelites in the desert at one point or another? God has parted our Red Sea in some way. He's led us out of some great trial, given us some great blessings. But then we run into a little resistance somewhere along the way and we throw up our hands. How could you do this to us, Lord? How could you ask this of us? No, I can't go any further. No, I won't do any more.

Persisting in the blindness to the many ways God continues to protect us is nothing short of a temper tantrum. It robs our Everyday Stewardship of its graciousness, of our ability to accept with joy the trials of life because we are also constantly aware of its blessings.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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## Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

Many Catholics want to read the Bible but get bogged down by the long stretches that seem not to make sense or get lost among the sea of Old Testament names and places. *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* helps you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture, so you can get the “big picture” of the Bible and understand what it is all about.

Aided by a unique color-coded *Bible Timeline™* Chart that arranges the key people, places, and events of the Bible in chronological order, *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* will help you pick up the Bible with confidence and better understand how you fit into God’s plan for our Salvation.

**What:** *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible*, a bible study by Ascension Press

**When:** Thursdays 7 - 8:30 pm  
September 2<sup>nd</sup> - October 21<sup>st</sup> (8 sessions)

**Where:** Archangel Room and/or gymnasium

**Cost:** \$25, which includes a workbook, *The Bible Timeline™* Chart, access to online resources

**\*\* This 2<sup>nd</sup> study is limited to the first 20 people registered by August 18, 2021**

To register or for more information, please contact Bonnie Bruck at [djbruck@hotmail.com](mailto:djbruck@hotmail.com).

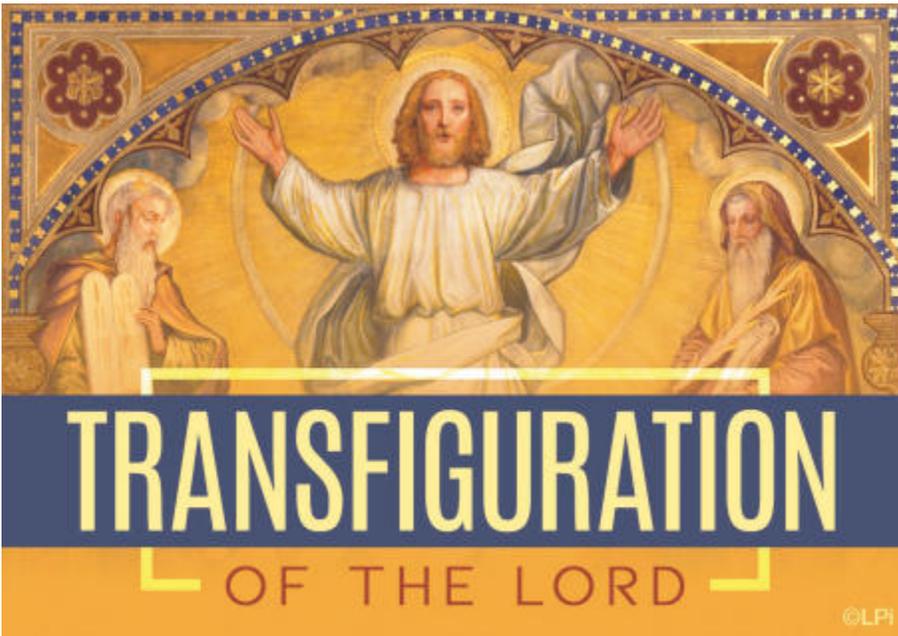


## GOSPEL MEDITATION

“You cannot see the forest for the trees” is a widely known saying that can bring wisdom to our understanding of our journey. Often, our sight becomes limited to what is immediately before us. We lose touch with lessons and experiences from the past and promises and hope for the future. As human beings, we have the privilege of being able to choose things. What I like and don’t like, want, and don’t want can be major preoccupations of our minds and hearts. Our preferences and desires begin to define us more than the simple fact of our being. Who we are matters more than what we are or what we have. If we don’t move beyond the external and superficial stuff to what really is of essence, we risk becoming very unsettled, disorientated, angry, and unhappy. We fail to see the bigger picture of hope and promise that lies ahead and the Divine Presence that has sustained and carried us before.

We like it when the “now” time of our lives satisfy us. Even the people who witnessed Jesus feed the five thousand got confused and distracted. It felt good when thousands of people were able to eat. They wanted to know what they could do to get this to happen again! But Jesus quickly reminds them that this is not the point of this sign. As much as the now time of our lives is of concern, it is not what is ultimately important. We need to learn the difference between being and doing, drawing more strength from who we are and who God is rather than what is happening around us and the choices we can make. Jesus is the true bread that came down from heaven. Jesus is the very incarnate presence of God who sustains life and assures us that we will not perish. This is not easy to understand and feel. We have to practice being in the presence of ourselves, others, creation, and God. We are brought to a holy place when we encounter the sacredness of being. This is real prayer.

Then, we learn to trust. It is when we cease trusting that we start to become afraid, uncertain, apprehensive, and doubtful, and overly self-concerned. We even start to grumble. God has our back. That is the essential powerful message of the living bread come down from heaven. God, who is alpha is also omega, the beginning and the end, and has everything in between in his care as well. A woman once remarked that her most powerful God moment happened when she and her husband cuddled with their new baby for a time. Without exchanging words and using only the affection communicated through sight and touch, they rested in being with each other. This brought them to the sacred, where they realized that a greater Being was with them. It was real. They knew that they were part of something bigger, intimate, and profound. When we rest in the Living Source of life, we will find that our souls are no longer hungry or thirsty.



## Transfiguration of the Lord

Feast Day August 6

The Transfiguration foretells the glory of the Lord as God, and His Ascension into heaven. It anticipates the glory of heaven, where we shall see God face to face. Through grace, we already share in the divine promise of eternal life.

### The Transfiguration

Our divine Redeemer, being in Galilee about a year before His sacred Passion, took with him St. Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, Sts. James and John, and led them to a retired mountain. Tradition assures us that this was Mount Thabor, which is exceedingly high and beautiful, and was anciently covered with green trees and shrubs, and was very fruitful. It rises something like a sugar-loaf, in a vast plain in the middle of Galilee. This was the place in which the Man-God appeared in His glory.

Whilst Jesus prayed, he suffered that glory which was always due to his sacred humility, and of which, for our sake, He deprived it, to diffuse a ray over His whole body. His face was altered and shone as the sun, and his garments became white as snow. Moses and Elias were seen by the three apostles in his company on this occasion, and were heard discoursing with him of the death which he was to suffer in Jerusalem.

The three apostles were wonderfully delighted with this glorious vision, and St. Peter cried out to Christ, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for thee, one for Moses, and one for Elias" Whilst St. Peter was speaking, there came, on a sudden, a bright shining cloud from heaven, an emblem of the presence of God's majesty, and from out of this cloud was heard a voice which said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" The apostles that were present, upon hearing this voice, were seized with a sudden fear, and fell upon the ground; but Jesus, going to them, touched them, and bade them to rise. They immediately did so, and saw no one but Jesus standing in his ordinary state.

This vision happened in the night. As they went down the mountain early the next morning, Jesus bade them not to tell any one what they had seen till he should be risen from the dead.

*--Excerpted from Butler's Lives of the Saints, Benziger Bros. ed. [1894]*

**REFLECT  
&  
RESPOND**



### FIRST READING:

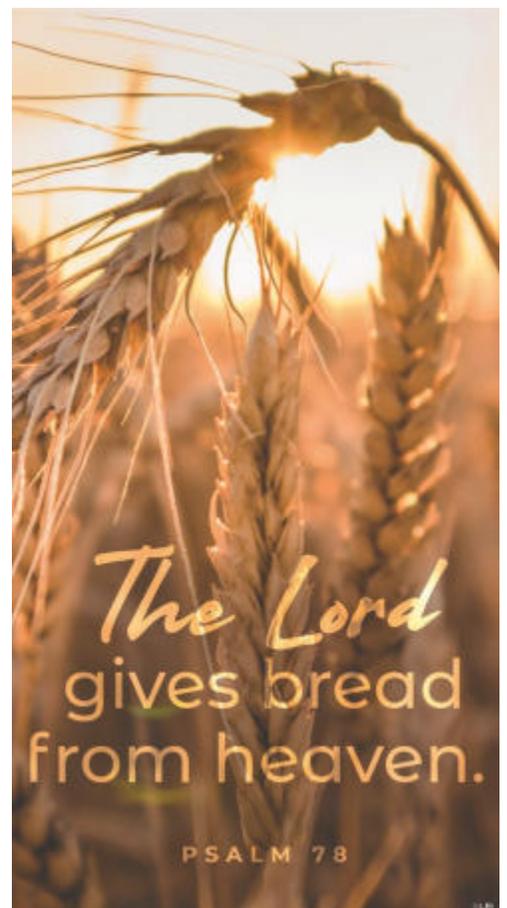
Early in their Exodus journey, the Israelites expressed fear and frustration to Moses. God heard and responded to their "grumbling" by sending bread from heaven. When you have you experienced God answering your plea for help?

### SECOND READING:

Paul told the Ephesians that as believers in Christ you should "put away" the bad parts of "your former way of life." How have you done this in your life as a believer in Christ?

### GOSPEL:

We hear today the introduction of Jesus' extended "bread of life" discourse. In referring back to the ancient Israelites who ate "manna" (bread) in the desert, Jesus tells the crowds: "I am the bread of life." How would you explain to someone how Jesus sustains you?



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Kim Reynolds,

Director of Early Childhood Education

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734-241-3377

Julie White, Enrollment Manager

[white@monroecatholicschools.com](mailto:white@monroecatholicschools.com)

- MCES Kindergarten offers students a great foundation for their academic career.
- Students participate in daily instruction in religion, math, science, social studies, literacy, and more.
- Special classes include: Garden, Art, Physical Education, Music and Technology.
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- Technology is integrated into the classroom with our new BenQ Touchboards and Lenovo Tablets.

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[maniaci@monroecatholicschools.com](mailto:maniaci@monroecatholicschools.com)



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Monica Beeson	Veronica	Donna Perez
Carolyn Bellino	Greenawalt	Mary Ray
Lynda Billock	Sean Griffin	Parker Reau
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Carol Carle	Lois Knegendorf	Bob Vajcner
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	Madeline Lemerand	Cody Wood
	Dorothy Louwsma	Mary Zubkoff

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:**

Major Matthew Aubry	Staff Sgt. Angelo Marino
Brett Bennett	Staff Sgt. Emily Marino
Tracy (Scobel) Bennett	Airman 2 Drew McLaughlin
Pvt. Adrien Boudreault	Sgt. William McGowan
Major Zachery Briscoe	S. Sgt. Jill (Hoffman) Miles
CWO3 Ricky Brown	AB Tannar Osborne
Cpt. Kyle Burkardt, DDS	Major Tim Payment
Cpt. Patrick Burkardt, DDS	Alan Scobel
1st Sgt. Robert C. Cebina	Lt Col Marcus Sitterly
Cpl Chase E. Collingsworth	Gregory Smith
Spc. Skylar Cooper	M/Sgt. Marian Olmsted Smith
SMS. Wayne Fetty	Spc. Travis Weber
Cpl Jacob Luthy	Cpt. Brian Worley, USMC
Sgt. Michael Makela	CPL Justin Zukowski

**Readings for the Week of August 1, 2021**

Sunday: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54 [24b]/Eph 4:17, 20-24/Jn 6:24-35  
Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [2a]/Mt 14:13-21  
Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 [cf. 3a]/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14  
Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35/Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Mt 15:21-28  
Thursday: Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Mt 16:13-23  
Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 [1a and 9a]/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mk 9:2-10  
Saturday: Dn 6:4-13/Ps 18: 28, 3-4. 47 and 51/Mk 17:14-20  
Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [9a]/Eph 4:30—5:2/Jn 6:41-51

**THIS WEEK ~ AUGUST 2 - 8**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 2**

*St. Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop;*  
*St. Peter Julian Eymard, Priest*  
Mass 8:15 am - church  
Devotions 9 am - church

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 3**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4**

*St. John Vianney, Priest*

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 5**

*The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major*

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 6**

*The Transfiguration of the Lord*

Michael's Men Prayers 7 am - church  
Mass 8:15 am - church

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 7**

*St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs;*  
*St. Cajetan, Priest; BVM*

**TOP HAT COLLECTION**

Confession 3:30 pm - church  
Mass 5:00 pm - church

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 8**

*19th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**TOP HAT COLLECTION**

Mass 8:30 am - church  
Mass 10:30 am - church  
Baptisms noon - church

**AUGUST VOTIVE LIGHTS**

Sanctuary Light: Waldon & Dorothy Wannemacher  
St. Mary: Peter Iminski  
St. Joseph: Paul Dalpe

**CATHOLIC TRIVIA**

Answer: **b**

**LITURGY SCHEDULE AUGUST 2 - 8**

DAY & TIME	INTENTIONS
<b>Monday 8:15 am</b>	† Frank Liparoto † Joseph & Tina Perna
<b>Friday 8:15 am</b>	† Nina Mignano Lewis † Frank Liparoto
<b>Saturday 5:00 pm</b>	† Clyde David Skinner † Jack and Angela Grippi
<b>Sunday 8:30 am</b>	† Ed Theisen 7 years † Prosper DeSloover 7 years
<b>10:30 am</b>	† The People of St Michael

## LIVE THE LITURGY

When we lose our ability to trust, we become afraid. When we are afraid, we may begin to grumble and question whether where we are is where we need to be. For us who have faith, we even question whether God is who God says He is. Trust is so important to our success on our journey. Often, the road of our lives can become a bit treacherous. We may find ourselves feeling more unsettled than comfortable and less fulfilled than we would like to be. As much as we try, the pieces of our puzzle don't quite fit together as they ought. We wonder if we will ever experience happiness again. Then, something reminds us that God is very much present in this mess we call life. God is still bringing hope out of despair and life out of death. After all, God is the true bread that comes down from heaven to give life. All that is necessary is for us to trust in this truth, even when we may be lacking in some of life's essentials. The God who gives life is the same God who sustains it. He is also the same God who assures us that we will not perish.

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## Top Hat Collection is next weekend!



### Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time:

In today's Gospel the disciples ask for a sign like the bread Moses had received in the desert. Jesus tells them that He is the true Bread of Life.

Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you enable the members of the Society to bring bread to the hungry as a sign of God's love. Thank you for your support!



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Cassie Romzek, Pastoral Associate x35

DeeDee Perkins, Office Manager x14

Leslee Smith, Faith Formation Director 734-241-6097

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