



**Parish Office:** 2751 County Road 30 • Florence, Alabama 35634  
**Phone:** 256-764-1885 • **Fax:** 256-349-2186  
**Sacramental Emergency:** 256-736-3970 / 256-415-8517 (Rectory)  
**Email:** stmichaelscatholic@gmail.com • **Website:** www.stmichaelscatholic.org  
**Find us on Instagram:** stmichaelscatholic  
**Facebook:** St. Michael's Catholic Church Family - St Florian, Alabama  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday–Friday, 9:30 am–1:30 pm



## MAY 30, 2021 • THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

### PARISH STAFF

**Pastor**..... Fr. John O'Donnell, O.S.B.  
**Deacons**..... Dcn. Steve Kirkpatrick  
 deaconsteve@stmichaelscatholic.org  
 Deacon Bob Laremore..... rnlaremore@yahoo.com  
**Director of Religious Education** ..... David Locker  
 dre@stmichaelscatholic.org  
**Bookkeeper**..... Mary Jo Rivera  
 bookkeeper@stmichaelscatholic.org  
**Secretary**..... Elaine Eckl  
 secretary@stmichaelscatholic.org  
**Activity/Choir Director/Organist**..... Donna Peters  
**Youth Directors** ..... Suzanne & Todd McGee  
**Housekeeper**..... Kathy Williams

### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil.....6:00 pm  
 Sunday ..... 7:30 am and 10:00 am  
 Tuesday, Thursday and Friday ..... 7:30 am  
 Wednesday .....6:00 pm

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Confessions:** Wednesdays at 5:30 pm; Saturdays at 5:00pm and by appointment

**Baptisms:** By appointment

**Marriage:** Diocesan regulations require at least 6 months advance notice

**PSR:** Sundays at 8:45am–9:45am  
 School Building across the Street from Church

**Restrooms - in the Parish House (West of the Church)**  
**Automated External Defibrillator -**  
**in east vestibule of the Church.**  
**Emergency Exits through sacristies**

### CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES

203 Plum Street • Florence, AL  
 Debbie Buffaloe, LGSW, Social Worker  
 256-768-1550 • cfsdebb@att.net  
*Individual, marriage, and family counseling, adoptions, and infant foster care, pregnancy and post-abortion counseling. Sliding Scale Affordable Rates, No Insurance filing.*

### PARISH INFORMATION FORM

(or call Parish Office at 256-764-1885)

- ☐ Please Mail a New Parishioner Registration Form  
☐ Please make the following changes to my census information  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address \_\_\_\_\_



### FATHER JOHN'S MESSAGE

Today, we celebrate the feast of the Holy Trinity. I like to make an analogy using the sun. Our great generous friend in the sky, the sun, provides three powers: light, heat and rays of energy. Three different powers, but only one smiling face of the sun that blesses us each day. The sun is a metaphor for this Catholic feast of the Most Holy Trinity: 1) The face of God as Father and Creator who has filled the earth with birds and beauty, and given us billions of galaxies of stars and planets to discover. 2) The face of God as Son taking flesh and walking at our side; showing us how to live and love; dying to save us and opening the way to Heaven. 3) The face of God as Spirit inspiring us and making us temples of sacredness. Three faces of God, but only one God. The triune God in us is our life.

### GOSPEL MEDITATION

Let God be who God is. This is often one of the hardest things to do. Rather than allowing the mystery of being created in the image and likeness of God unfold and take root in our lives, we change the dynamic. We want to be the creators who want to make God into the image and likeness we need God to be. We have a hard-enough time letting the people in our lives be who they are. We struggle even more so with God. It is almost as if we want God to be our imaginary friend who is not only with us whenever we need but becomes the Being we need God to be. Who is it that we want God to be today? A protector, disciplinarian, champion for justice, healer, advocate for our cause, grantor of prayers, guardian of my life, or the avenger? Our prayers tell an interesting story. When you pray, what does God look like? Recently, a young woman who was feeling invisible, overlooked, ignored, and misunderstood by her husband struggled to make her feelings known and get his attention. Finally, she screamed, "Listen to me!" Thus, birth was given to a renewed and healthier relationship. We spend so much time storming heaven with our agenda and trying to make God into a "god" of our desires that we do not hear God saying, "Listen to me!" God is desperately trying to get our attention. God is saying, I am here among you as not one but three, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Many people seldom notice God's presence because they are so caught up with other spiritual cares and concerns. And, when the "god" they fashion and create doesn't produce as they desire, they shake the dust from their feet and move on. "I tried," they exclaim, "but God didn't listen." Healthy relationships aren't built on making someone be who we need them to be. Healthy relationships are built on encounters of persons and the development of an appreciation of someone solely for who they are. Deeper relationships can even be found with two people marveling at each other and almost experiencing a childlike joy and giddiness when they see the other coming. Do you ever have these feelings about God? Believe it or not, God does for you! There is a joyful laughter that gives rise to and connects all three members of the Holy Trinity. It is this laughter, flowing from the very depths of the Godhead that not only keeps the Trinity in joyful unity but spills over into the creation of all beings and things. It is an expression of Divine Delight! Have you ever taken time away from your agenda to experience the Divine Joyfulness of God? We can reach a connection of Presence wherein even the smallest of creatures suddenly radiate the fullness of God: the wonderful creation of their being, the innocence and playfulness of their movements, and the sustaining life breath that flows through their veins. The same God who created the heavens and the earth is the same God who wants you to call him 'Dad' and the same God who preserves your life and has all things in His care.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 30, 2021

Sunday: Dt 4:32-34, 39-40 /Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-20, 22 /Rom 8:14-17 and Mt 28:16-20  
 Monday: Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16 /Is 12:2-6 and Lk 1:39-56  
 Tuesday: Tb 2:9-14 /Ps 112:1-2, 7-9 /Mk 12:13-17  
 Wednesday: Tb 3:1-11a, 16-17a /Ps 25:2-9 /Mk 12:18-27  
 Thursday: Tb 6:10-11; 7:1bcde, 9-17; 8:4-9a /Ps 128:1-5 /Mk 12:28-34  
 Friday: Tb 11:5-17 /Ps 146:1b-2, 6c-10 /Mk 12:35-37  
 Saturday: Tb 12:1, 5-15, 20 /Tb 13:2, 6-8 /Mk 12:38-44  
 Next Sunday: Ex 24:3-8 /Ps 116:12-13, 15-18 /Heb 9:11-15 and Mk 14:12-16, 22-26



### MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK

#### SATURDAY, MAY 29

6:00 pm +James Patterson (Catherine Schmidtkofer)

#### SUNDAY, MAY 30

7:30 am People of the Parish  
 10:00 am +Deceased Eckl Family Members (S Evers)

#### TUESDAY, JUNE 1

7:30 am Special Intentions (Eck Family)

#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

6:00 pm +Elizabeth & Jules Weintraub (B/R Cook)

#### THURSDAY, JUNE 3

7:30 am +Joe & Diane Kasmeier (C/M A Meyer)

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 4

7:30 am +Alex Connolly (Bill/Neena Connolly)

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 5

6:00 pm People of the Parish

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 6

7:30 am +Bob Powers (Regan/Janet Ragland)  
 10:00 am +Maureen Crain (Maureen Olson)

| Date Time                     | Eucharistic Minister | Lector         |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| May 29<br>Saturday<br>6:00 PM | Greg Halen           | Greg Halen     |
| May 30<br>Sunday<br>7:30 AM   | Bud Ward             | Bud Ward       |
| May 30<br>Sunday<br>10:00 AM  | Carolyn Eck          | Carolyn Eck    |
| June 5<br>Saturday<br>6:00 PM | David Locker         | Jennifer Halen |
| June 6<br>Sunday<br>7:30 AM   | Bud Ward             | Bud Ward       |
| June 6<br>Sunday<br>10:00 AM  | David Locker         | Alan Eckl      |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**First Sunday Adoration** is next Sunday June 6th after the 10am Mass and concluding at 3pm with Benediction. The sign up sheet is in the back of Church.

**Father John** will be on retreat next week from June 7th-11th. Communion Services will be offered in place of a Mass during the week. Mass Intentions will be rescheduled. If you are in need of a priest during that time please call Father Joseph at Saint Joseph Church.



**Thank you** for all your expressions of kindness shown at the loss of my sister, Linda Hannah. Your calls, cards, messages, and especially your prayers were such a comfort and very much appreciated during this difficult time. May God bless my Saint Michael's family. -Chris McGee



**Blood Drive** sponsored by the Knights of Columbus is this Sunday, May 30th from 7:30am - 12:30pm in the gym parking lot.

**Anyone interested** in free hackberry firewood is welcome to get some located behind the rectory. Please be careful when handling the firewood.

**Dave Ramsey Yard Sale** is this Saturday June 5th in the gym.

**Catholic Night** at the Pie Factory is next Tuesday, June 8th. Our very own Dan Penny will be playing live music from 6-9pm. A portion of the proceeds will be donated back to the Church. Come out for some great food and music!



**Drive by Wedding Shower** for Madison Tidwell at the Buffler House is next Sunday June 6th from 1-3pm. She is registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, Target, and Amazon. All are invited.

**The Saint Francis statue** has arrived and been placed on the east side of the Church by the flowers. We invite you to stop by to see it. Another statue will be purchased with the remaining donations!

**CYO** will have a meeting next Sunday, June 6th in the CYO room in the gym at 4:30pm. All youth 7-12th grade are invited.

**Soccer** will be played next Sunday, June 6th at 5pm at the soccer field just east of the Rectory. Food and snacks will be served at halftime. Come out and enjoy some fun for the whole family.

**Offertory Envelope Boxes** are in the vestibule again for pickup.

**Altar Servers and Greeters** - We are currently not scheduling any altar servers or greeters at this time. If you would like to volunteer for either one you may step up at any time to do so.



**Dance Night** is set for Friday June 11th in the gym. Instructions start at 6pm with the dance from 7-9pm. Come out for some fun or just to watch.

**Family and Friends Day** is set for Sunday June 27th. Mark your calendar for a day full of food, fun, bingo and games for all ages!



**Flowers on the altar** are placed by George & Mary Lou Wilson. The ladies in charge of the altar for the month of June are Cynthia Johnson (256-764-5394), Neena Connolly and Harriett Albright.

## Reflection of Sunday's Readings

**First Reading** In the closing remarks of the speech delivered to the Israelites in the desert, Moses reflects on God's fidelity and love for them. In return for God's favor, the Israelites are instructed to keep God's statutes and commandments. Why do you think so many people are resistant to this divine expectation?

**Second Reading** Paul sees the Holy Spirit as integral to our identity as "children of God" and "joint heirs with Christ." How do you sense our Triune God at work in your life?

**Gospel** We hear today the closing words in the Gospel of Matthew — Jesus' final commissioning of the disciples to evangelize and baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. What insights to the nature of God does this divine relationship offer?

## Live the Liturgy - Inspiration for the Week

The immensity, scope, intimacy, and pervasiveness of God's presence is too intense for the human mind. We often limit God by our expectations of Him and have a hard time just letting God be God. Some people all too easily lose faith because God does not meet their expectations. Worse still, the idea of faith is rejected altogether by others because of polarities and experiences they have that don't square with who they need God to be. The Holy Trinity is one of those teachings that is best encountered rather than dissected. It is only through being present with the Trinity that we can experience both the immensity and otherness of God's presence as well as the intimacy of the God who wants us to call Him "dad." We feel the loving guidance of a God who wants to take us from fear and give us confidence. Our God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow is a God of all ages whose three-fold Presence invades all senses, seasons, and times. God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is much more than any of our expectations if we simply let God be who God is.

## ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Knights of Columbus** would like you to invite you to our Priest's Appreciation Picnic at St. Florian Park on Sunday, June 13th from 1-3PM. We will have hot dogs and hamburgers with all the trimmings for free! We are coming out of a very tough year and want to celebrate what all of our Priests and Religious have done for us! Please call the Church Office or a Knight so they can get a headcount if you know you plan attend.

**St. Florian Senior Center** would like to welcome Ella Cheek as the new Sr. Director. The center will reopen on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 9:00 am. A pot luck lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. - meat and drink will be provided, please bring a dish to share and join us! The Senior Center will be open on Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Save the date for Totus Tuus** at Saint Joseph's Church from July 18th-23rd. Call their office for addition information.

**PARISHIONERS in the hospital or health care facility:**

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Ann Eaton, (Hilltop Assisted Living)         | Lawrence Locker (Florence Rehab)   |
| Dorothy Bryant, Connie Sledge<br>(El Reposo) | Sandra Krieger (JW Sommer Rehab)   |
| Houston Woods (Colebeck Lodge)               | Janice Boudreaux (Brookwood B'ham) |

**PARISHIONERS at Home:**

|                             |                      |                     |                    |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Jim Albright                | Abbot Victor Clark   | Jim Kasmeier        | Catherine Pettus   |
| Gerry Bernauer              | O.S.B.               | P.L. King           | Carolyn Powers     |
| Bonnie Bernauer             | Betty Connolly       | Charlie Krieger     | Luke Reaves        |
| Debbie Brewer               | John Connolly        | Andy Joe Krieger    | Robert Sloan       |
| Stephen Brinley             | Vicky Connolly       | Debbie Lamprecht    | <b>Mike Stumpe</b> |
| Mary Catherine<br>Broadfoot | <b>Peter Curtice</b> | Mary Alice Meyer    | Margot Taschner    |
| Martha Gruber               | Ray Gresham          | Lily Grace Mitchell | Louise Wade        |
| Cabler                      | Darlene Hall         | Howard Murphy       | George Wilson      |
| Lisa Carter                 | Mary Ellen Hall      | Carl Parasiliti     |                    |
|                             | Chris Kasmeier       | Betty Peters        |                    |
|                             | Frances Kasmeier     |                     |                    |

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**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE IN THE MILITARY  
SERVICE AND FAMILIES**

|                |                 |                |                    |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Freddie Adams  | Joseph Burkhart | Rob Griner     | Michael/Mary Perry |
| Joe Albright   | Thomas Burkhart | Greg Halen     | Hunter Rippey      |
| Caleb Albright | Chris Cavin     | Robbie Herlong | Scott Scidel       |
| Chris Albright | Bryan Coburn    | Daniel Keel    | Joel Scott         |
| Corey Albright | Barry Crosby    | Julia McKinney | Andy Watson        |
| Chad Breedwell | Andy Faul       | Eric Napier    | Brandon Wilcutt    |
| Bryan Brown    | Justin Graham   | Scott Noss     |                    |

**NON-PARISHIONERS:**

|                   |                  |                    |                   |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Anna Marie Meyer, | David Etienne,   | (Chris McGee)      | Sister Marian     |
| Carol Meyer Jent  | Sara Rich (Donna | Caleb Adams (M/M   | Gibbons, O.P. (MJ |
| (Charles Meyer),  | Peters)          | Connolly) Teresa   | Pitts)            |
| John & Michele    | Carolyn Lewis    | Buttler, Alyssa    | Jean Seymore      |
| Jones (Linda      | (Joe Lamprecht)  | Estelle (V Cermak) |                   |
| Tamayo)           | Patrick McGee    |                    |                   |





## BIBLE STUDY

**Women's Bible Study** meets on Tuesdays at 9:30am in the gym, all are welcome. We are studying "The Holy Spirit" by Fr Mitch Pacwa. Call Bridget Estelle at 256-740-7158 for more info.



**Adult Morning Bible Study** are studying book of Isaiah. The study is written by Dr Scott Hahn. We continue to meet in the school at 10:30am and all are welcome.

**Tuesday Night Bible Study** are studying the book of Exodus. The study is written by Dr Scott Hahn. We continue to meet in the school at 6:30pm and all are welcome.

## DO YOU KNOW?



**Question:** If it isn't only for people who are dying, when should someone receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick? **Answer:** One of the unfortunate realities in the Church today is that so few people understand the meaning and value of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, largely because so many people still mistakenly think of this sacrament as "Last Rites" or "Extreme Unction." In his life and ministry, Jesus healed the sick. In this sacrament, the Church continues the healing mission of Jesus and, in hope, prays that God will grant healing to the person who is suffering. But even if there is no physical healing, the sacrament offers spiritual healing through the Holy Spirit's gifts of peace and courage. And so, anyone who is living with serious illness (including emotional or psychological illness) and the elderly are encouraged to celebrate this sacrament when it is needed. The ritual for Anointing of the Sick does also include special prayers and blessings for those who are facing death, including viaticum (communion given to the dying, trusting that the Lord Jesus will be their companion along the way, as they make their final journey).

## DECREE CONFIRMING THE CESSATION OF MASS DISPENSATION

Beginning May 24, 2021 all Catholics in the Diocese of Birmingham, Alabama shall again be subject to the precept of attending Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation unless excused for a serious reason. Reasons include: care of infants; being advised by medical doctor that it is not safe due to individuals current circumstances; experiencing high amount of mental distress over the prospect of returning to public activities; having symptoms of covid-19 or another serious/contagious illness. Those who deliberately fail in the obligation to attend Mass commit a grave sin. For the full decree issued by Bishop Raica please visit the Diocese's website.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is set for July 17th. The theme is God's Promise. Volunteers are needed! Help is needed to help serve snacks, assist teachers and help lead games. Call Donna at 256-577-1607 if you'd like to help in anyway.



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Debbi.Nerstad@Gentiva.com  
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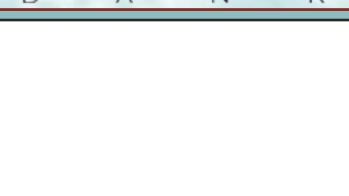
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