



Parish Office: 2751 County Road 30 • Florence, Alabama 35634  
 Phone: 256-764-1885 • Fax: 256-349-2186  
 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



## OCTOBER 3, 2021 • TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

### PARISH STAFF

**Pastor** ..... Abbot Cletus Meagher 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 School Building (directly across the street from 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 \_\_\_\_\_



27<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
 IN ORDINARY TIME

"From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female."  
 - Mk 10:6

**FATHER JOHN'S MESSAGE**

Thank you to Saint Michael's for allowing me to be your pastor for the last five years. I will keep all of you in my prayers and hope you keep me and Saint Bernard Abbey in your prayers. May God Bless you all!

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

Archbishop Fulton Sheen said, "It takes three to make love, not two: you, your spouse, and God." Apart from the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, nothing speaks better of God's incarnate love than marriage. God designed it this way. We place great value on love and rightly so. What we fail to realize, however, is that love, its very presence and place in our lives, is not simply part of the human package deal. Love comes from God. It is one of God's greatest gifts to human beings. When we begin to realize that our very ability to love is sacred, it changes up how we see the essence of life, and purpose and sanctity of marriage.

God is love. It stands to reason then that if we follow the path of unconditional, self-emptying love we will then stumble upon God. It is precisely this intimate wedding of God with love that gives such eloquence and honor to the love between husband and wife. As a living sign of Christ's love for the Church and for humanity, husbands and wives speak volumes of God's unconditional incarnate love for all of his children! The Divine power that brings unity and life to marriage is so strong that once joined, it really cannot be separated.

Admittedly, marriage covenants can be extremely difficult to negotiate and, at times, very painful to experience. God's perfect divinity always meets our broken and imperfect humanity. God is okay with this setup as he created it this way. Our loving is never as unconditional as God's and often tainted by our own imperfections, needs, memories, hurts, sinfulness, and weakness. All of this baggage negatively impacts even the most well-intentioned marriages, causing them to be hurtful and empty. We are love works in progress. God can succeed in perfecting our love only if we keep our eyes fixed on him as the source of that love. That's why marriage is always about three and not just two.

The Divine intimacy at the heart of marriage is what can make them celebrations of great union and happiness. Couples who are still madly in love with each other after many years, still looking at each other with that timeless twinkle in their eyes, best tell the story of God's oneness with humanity. Honor, celebrate, and support those who have accepted a vocation to marriage. Living in a world that easily pulls relationships apart, may they find hope and inspiration from their faith companions who are on the same journey!

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 3, 2021**

Sunday: Gn 2:18-24 /Ps 128:1-6 /Heb 2:9-11 and Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12  
 Monday: Jon 1:1—2:2, 11 /Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8 /Lk 10:25-37  
 Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10 /Ps 130:1-4, 7-8 /Lk 10:38-42  
 Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11 /Ps 86:3-6, 9-10 /Lk 11:1-4  
 Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b /Ps 1:1-4 and 6 /Lk 11:5-13  
 Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2 /Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9 /Lk 11:15-26  
 Saturday: Jl 4:12-21 /Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 /Lk 11:27-28  
 Next Sunday: Wis 7:7-11 /Ps 90:12-17 /Heb 4:12-13 and Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK****SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2**

6:00 pm +Angie Czymak (Wayne/Mary Ellen Hall)

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3**

7:30 am People of the Parish

10:00 am +Henry & Bea Stumpe (L/M Trousdale)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5**

7:30 am +Raymond Stumpe Jr (Wayne/Mary Ellen Hall)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6**

6:00 pm +James Patterson (Catherine Schmidtkofer)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7**

7:30 am +Jackie Berrens (Bill/Neena Connolly)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8**

7:30 am +Pete Curtice (Don/Pat Meville)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9**

6:00 pm +Alan Johnson (Cynthia Johnson)

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10**

7:30 am People of the Parish

10:00 am +Alicia Kelly (Paul/Angie Foster Family)

Date Time	Eucharistic Minister	Lector
October 2 Saturday 6:00 PM	David Locker	David Locker
October 3 Sunday 7:30 AM	Bud Ward	Carolyn Eck
October 3 Sunday 10:00 AM	Carolyn Eck	Alan Eckl
October 9 Saturday 6:00 PM	-	Greg Halen
October 10 Sunday 7:30 AM	-	John Lee
October 10 Sunday 10:00 AM	-	Adrian Eckl



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Offertory Collection Box** is now in the front of Church on the steps by the communion rail.

*Welcome*

Please welcome **Abbot Cletus Meagher O.S.B.** from Saint Bernard Abbey this weekend. Abbot Cletus is starting his role as the new pastor of Saint Michael's this weekend.

**Anyone wishing to send Father John a card** may address it as follows: Saint Bernard Abbey Attn: Father John O'Donnell 1600 Saint Bernard Drive SE Cullman, AL 35055-3057

*In Sympathy*

**Sympathy** is expressed to Venus McCarthy and family on the passing of her husband, Johnny McCarthy. May his soul rest with Our Risen Lord.

**First Sunday Adoration** is this Sunday after the 10am and concluding at 3pm. The sign up sheet is in the back of Church. Please join us to adore and praise Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.



**Dance Night** is this Friday October 8th from 6-9pm in the gym. Instructions start at 6pm with dancing from 7-9pm. All are welcome to join in the fun or just to watch.

**Catholic Night** at the Pie Factory continues the second Tuesday of each month. Our very own Dan Penny will play live music from 6-9pm next Tuesday, October 12th. A portion of the proceeds will be donated back to the Church. Come out for some great food and music.

**Ladies Altar Society** will meet next Tuesday October 12th at 10am in the gym. All ladies are welcome.



**Coffee and Doughnuts** will be served Sunday, October 17th, in the gym after the 7:30am and 10am Masses. Any individuals or families interested in hosting please contact Courtney Warden.

**Ladies in charge of the altar** for the month of October are Janet Ragland (256-710-1310), Deona Berrens and Marilyn Trousdale.

**Special T Shirts** were printed for the PSR students. Students may pick up shirts at class. A limited number of extra shirts and sizes are available for purchase in the Church Office for \$15.

**Finance Council** meets the third Thursday of the month, October 16th, at 12pm. The meeting is closed to non-council members but any parishioner who would like to address the council may request to be heard at the beginning of the meeting. Please submit request to attend along with topic to Logan Trousdale one week in advance to [loganmart@comcast.net](mailto:loganmart@comcast.net) or to the office.



**RCIA** continues Thursday evenings at Saint Joseph's at 6pm in the Parish Hall building. Anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith may attend. Each session is one hour long, and a light dinner is served at 5:30pm before each session. Classes run through Lent.



**Trunk or Treat** is set for Saturday October 30th from 2-4pm in front of the gym. More details to follow, make plans to stop by.

**All Souls Cemetery Service** is set for Sunday, October 31st. More details to follow.

## Reflection of Sunday's Readings

**First Reading** Today's creation account of man and woman is the foundation of our Judeo-Christian understanding of the covenant of marriage. When a male and a female marry, "the two of them become one body." What do you see as some modern implications in this understanding of marriage?

**Second Reading** The author of Hebrews tells us that we are "brothers" with Jesus in our common experience of suffering and death. In what way do you find comfort in this idea?

**Gospel** Both in public with the Pharisees and later in private with the disciples, Jesus takes a strong stand on the sacred and unbreakable bond of marriage. How do you imagine the Pharisees and the disciples reacted to Jesus' position?

## Live the Liturgy – Inspiration for the Week

"What God has joined together." We are all familiar with these words. Because man and woman are essentially of the same substance, although also distinctively different, there is an innate desire to be connected and united. Admittedly, marriage covenants can be extremely difficult to negotiate and, at times, very painful to experience. But they can also be celebrations of great union and happiness. This is proven by couples who have been married for many years who still have that same twinkle of devotion in their eyes that was present on their wedding day. God designed it to be this way. By God's power, the two become one. This is not of human design. The true intimacy of marriage is a Divine Intimacy. It is a bond created by a power far greater than any found in the two people who are joined. Marriage is where the virtue of love is most fully expressed.

## Prayer for Priests

Lord God, most holy, we approach you in gratitude for your holy ordained priesthood. You have called these men to be set apart and to shepherd your people, as you shepherd your entire church. We pray for them in their daily work. Grant to them an increase in spiritual gifts and grace, so they may be prepared for the tasks at hand. Lead them not into temptation and protect them from the grasp of the evil one. It is through the sacraments they confer that we encounter the divine in a real and profound way. May your church never lose sight of these, your special sons, and may we, the body of Christ, never fail to cherish the gift of their lives, which they have freely given to you and your holy church. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son. Amen.

## Offertory Collection

September 19th.....\$5,791

**Thank you for your support and generosity!**

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

Dorothy Bryant, Connie Sledge (El Reposo)	David Lewis, Lawrence Locker (Florence Nursing Home)
Houston Woods (Colebeck Lodge)	Sandra Krieger (Helen Keller)

**PARISHIONERS at Home:**

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

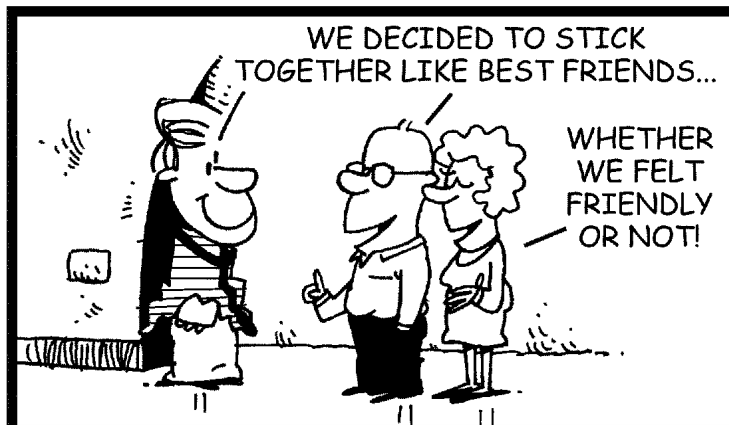
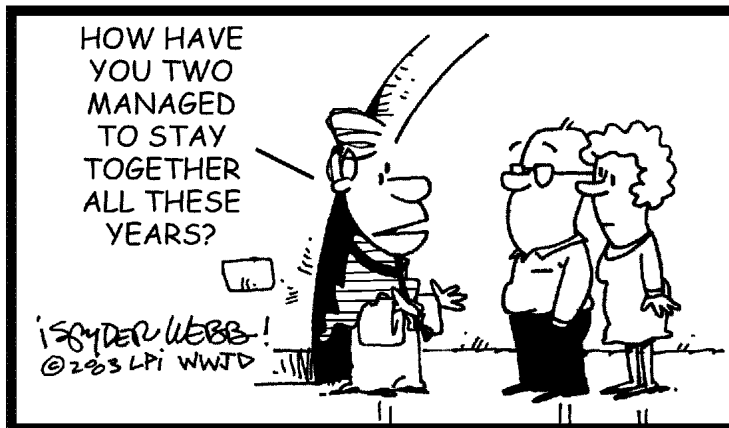
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**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE IN THE MILITARY  
SERVICE AND FAMILIES**

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,	(Chris McGee)	Sister Marian	Eli King (Ann
Carol Meyer Jent	Caleb Adams (M/M	Gibbons, O.P. (MJ	Stumpe)
(Charles Meyer),	Connolly) Teresa	Pitts)	Tate Richardson
David Etienne,	Buttler, Alyssa	Wray Eckl, Mary	(Martha Cabler)
(Donna Peters)	Estelle (V Cermak)	Dunson, Rose	Christine Varner
Patrick McGee		Kasmeier (C Eck)	(C.Varer)





## BIBLE STUDY



**Women's Bible Study** meets on Tuesdays at 9:30am in the gym, all are welcome. We are studying "The Eucharist" by Fr Mitch Pacwa. All ladies are welcome.

**Adult Thursday Morning Bible Study** meet at 10:30am Thursday mornings in the office library, all are welcome.



**Tuesday Night Bible Study** will begin a new study on the books of Romans. We continue to use the Ignatius Press **BIBLE STUDY** series and we are meeting at 6:30pm in the office library. All are welcome.



## DO YOU KNOW?



**Question:** Can a person (the mother, father, or provider) ever be forgiven for an abortion?

**Answer:** For people of faith, any conversation of human sinfulness should always lead us to reflect on God's loving mercy. Because God's mercy is greater than any sin, the Church is clear that even those involved in the sin of abortion can be reconciled with God and the Church. To help make this grace more available through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Pope Francis extended the permission to absolve someone of the sin of abortion to all priests in 2016.

Even with the grace and blessings of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the tragedy of abortion and the aftermath of abortion takes a toll on everyone involved. Ministries of outreach and support, such as Project Rachel, offer pastoral counseling, support groups, retreats, and other forms of care. As Christians, we are also called to help promote this healing and reconciliation in all its forms. To learn more, visit [www.hopeafterabortion.com](http://www.hopeafterabortion.com).

## ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS, PROFESSIONALS, SELF-EMPLOYED AND FAMILIES!



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The bulletin is a main source of communication to everyone in the parish and is handed out at masses throughout the week - EVERY week of the year.

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