

“The younger son said to his father, ‘Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.’”

A Jewish friend claims that we can know the parable of *The Prodigal Son* is a story because no Jewish father in the time of Jesus would divide his property before he died and give half to his spendthrift youngest son. My Jewish friend highlights an important point - Jesus is telling a story. Jesus frequently used parables to teach a truth. A parable is a story. This story teaches us the truth that love is unconditional. It is tempting to get caught up in the details about the ingratitude and selfishness of the youngest son who thought he could buy happiness and friends; the love of a father for a child who has rejected him and all his values; and a son who is too self absorbed and angry to share his father’s joy at the return of his younger brother. Jesus told the story to teach the Pharisees and scribes, and us, that there is a little bit of the father and his sons in all of us. We sometimes love unconditionally; we are sometimes ungrateful and selfish; we are sometimes too angry to share others’ joys. What would others say about us?

**** Please take note, parking on the grass is NOT ALLOWED**
**** Parents please take note, Children are NOT ALLOWED in the hall during mass or to be in the classrooms after CCD Classes.**

There are blue boxes in the back of the church for different items we are collecting for charities in our community. Please consider donating these items:
 - Flip tops from soda cans, Cancelled postage stamps, plastic bottle tops from 16/20oz soda bottles, used Christmas cards, Old eyeglasses and cases.

The Knights of Columbus
 Will be sponsoring their annual Fish Fry on the following Fridays during Lent after Stations of the Cross which are at 5:00 PM. March 15, 22, 29th and April 5th & 12th. The cost will be \$7.00 a plate for either fish or shrimp.

The Knights of Columbus
 Annual Easter Eggs on the Lawn will take place behind the parish hall on Easter Sunday April 21, 2019 at 1:00 PM. For children ages 1 through 12

Lenten Penance Services

Date and Time	Church	Location
Mar 26, 2019 5:30 PM	St Joseph	Central City
Mar 31, 2019 5:00 PM	St Michael	Oak Grove
Apr 8, 2019 6:00 PM	Resurrection	Dawson Springs
Apr 9, 2019 6:00 PM	Christ the King	Madisonville
Apr 11, 2019 9-11:00 AM	Sts. Peter and Paul	Hopkinsville
Apr 14, 6:00 PM	Sts. Peter and Paul	Hopkinsville

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are always welcome. They are always needed to serve in the ministries such as Lay Eucharistic Minister, Lecter, Usher, Altar Server, Choir, Greeter, Church and hall cleaning etc.. If you wish to volunteer for any of these ministries please see FR. Julian or Deacons Tom, Jack or Wayne.

Pastor, Fr. Julian Ibemere
 julian.ibemere@pastoral.org
Deacons, Jack Cheasty
 jackcheasty@gmail.com
 Tom Torson : ttorson@aol.com
 Wayne Boudreaux:
 boudreaux.wayne56@yahoo.com
Parish Council
Chairman/ Building,
 Joe Schmitt (931) 237-8430
Vice-Chair, Peter Robbins
 (931) 551-6694
Secretary/Youth/Social Concerns,
 Emma Hockaday (270) 874-7070

Members

Bernadette Crisostomo
 (931) 206-8929
 Roger Richey (270) 887-5716
 Jason Kumiyama (931) 206-0551
 Dee DeJesus (931) 905-0233
 Mary Johnson (419) 215-9486

Knights of Columbus Liaison

Bob Whelan (931) 624-5734

Director of Religious Education

Deacon Wayne Boudreaux
 Bernadette Crisostomo

Fundraising Committee, Finance

Deacon Tom Torson
 (931) 551-3020

Liturgy/Worship & Adoration

Janet Doyle (931) 551-9788

Spiritual Life, Laura Tilley

(931) 237-0394

Adult & Youth Faith Formation

Sundays 10-11am Sep-May

R. C. I. A.

Rite of Christian Initiation for adults.
 Wednesdays 7:00 PM Sep-May

Weekend Mass Schedule :

SAT 5:00PM SUN 8:30 & 11:30AM

Weekday

Mon, Thur., Fri 9:00 AM.
 Wed. 6:00 PM

St. Michael the Archangel
CATHOLIC CHURCH



• 448 State Line Rd. • Oak Grove, KY 42262

Office Hours: 9:00 am–12:00 pm website: stmichaeloakgrove.church

Email: st.michaeloakgrove@gmail.com

Phone / Fax : (270) 640 - 9850

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel

defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.

Celebration of the Sacraments

Baptism- takes place every 3rd Sunday, during or outside of Mass. Contact Fr. Julian or Deacons Jack, Tom, or Wayne to set a meeting to prepare for the Sacrament and set a date. Baptism for older youth and adults occurs at the Easter Vigil.

Confession- Saturdays, 4:30 pm, before or after any Mass or by appointment with Fr. Julian. Communal services during Advent and Lent.

First Reconciliation- is celebrated during Advent.

First Eucharist- is celebrated during May each year with children in the second grade or older.

Confirmation- for youth is conferred by the Bishop. Adults receive the Sacrament at the Easter Vigil or before Marriage by Fr. Julian.

Holy Orders- Contact Fr. Julian or Deacons Jack or Tom if you are interested in the vocations of Priesthood, Diaconate or Religious.

Marriage- Contact Fr. Julian or Deacons Jack or Tom for any Marriage and Annulment need.

Anointing of the Sick- Anyone who is seriously ill or going to surgery should request anointing by contacting Fr. Julian.

Opportunities for Life Hotline

Call (800) 822-5824 for help for those experiencing an untimely pregnancy.

Nationwide Mass Times

Automated Church Lookup:
 1(858) 207-6277 or log on to www.masstimes.org

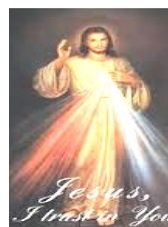
SINCERE WELCOME TO ALL FRIENDS VISITING US TODAY

To register with the parish, please stop at the Office after Mass to fill out the form.

ADVERTISING RATES

Bulletin Prices	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
Business Card	\$150	\$280	\$540
Single Space	\$45	\$80	\$150
	(1 1/2 x 2)		

Misericordia Divina Divine Mercy Spanish Prayer Group Wed. 10 am call Sofia Craft at (931) 591-8042 or Gladys Douglas at (931) 225-8557 We visit families Visitamos las familias



✂ Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad" and Present It The Next Time You Patronize One of Our Advertisers.

Thank You

Please support our sponsors who appear in this bulletin. They support us by paying for an ad.

HELP WANTED!!!

Looking for someone to take over the Bulletin Ads! Please Contact Mary Johnson at 419-215-9486

Mass Intentions \$5
Sanctuary Candle \$10

Please put your donation in an envelope and indicate († if deceased). Please give your name, phone and the date wanted in the collection basket. If the exact time and date you requested is not available, the closest available Mass time and date will be assigned. Envelopes for Mass Intentions are in the foyer on the table.

****Bulletin Deadline - Wednesday**
Contact Angela Pineda (907)-687-3840 or email at pinedaaml@yahoo.com
****Advertisement in Bulletin Contact Mary Johnson at (419) 215-9486**

WEBSITE
 St. Michael's new WEBSITE is now available at www.stmichaeloakgrove.church
 Please check it out for more information.

Blessed Mother Bookstore
Open: Sunday 9:30 - 11:30 am
Come by and check us out.

Reading for this week 03/31- 04/07

Monday:	IS	65:17-21
	PS	30:2,4-6, 11-12a, 13b
	JN	4:43-54
Tuesday:	EZ	47:1-9, 12
	PS	46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9
	JN	5:1-16
Wednesday:	IS	49:8-15
	PS	145:8-9, 13C-14, 17-18
	JN	5:17-30
Thursday:	EX	32:7-14
	PS	106:19-23
	JN	5:31-47
Friday:	WIS	2:1A, 12-22
	PS	34:17-21, 23
	JN	7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	JER	11:18-20
	PS	7:2-39B-12
	JN	7:40-53
Sunday:	IS	43:16-21
	PS	126:1-6
	PHIL	3:8-14
	JN	8:1-11

4th Sunday of Lent YRC

1st Reading (Joshua 5:9-12) We hear the beautiful words God spoke to his people. "I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you". The shame of sin and the darkness of slavery are behind them. The years of wandering in the desert are over. They have come home to the promised land. A new era was about to begin. They mark their homecoming by celebrating the new feast of Passover.



2nd reading (2 Cor 5:17-21) Christ brought about a reconciliation between God and humanity. The church's task is to bring the benefits of this to the people.

Gospel (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) The parable of the prodigal son shows that God delights in showing mercy to repentant sinners. This reminds us of the homecoming of the prodigal son Gospel of (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) His shame is also behind him. His years of wandering are over and he returns home to a warm welcome and a great feast. A new and bright future lies ahead of him. For the older son and the Pharisees' who are righteous Christians, God's mercy to sinners seems unfair and scandalous. Paul in his second letter to the Corinthians (2 Cor 5:17-21) stresses how God reconciled us to Himself through Christ, not holding our faults against us. The task of the church is to bring the benefits won by Christ to all the people.

God's Attitude To Repentant Sinners

Ramsey tells how when he was fifteen he stole a little piece of gold from his brother. He felt so bad about it that he made up his mind to confess it to his father. He wrote out his sin on a piece of paper, asking for forgiveness and punishment, while promising never to steal again.

At the time his father was in bed sick, Ramsey handed him the note and sat by the bedside waiting for judgment. His father sat up in bed and began to read the note. As he read it tears came into his eyes. Ramsey himself also cried. Instead of getting angry and punishing him, the father hugged his repentant son and that was the end of the matter. The experience of being loved while he was in sin had a profound effect on Ramsey. He said later "only the person who has experienced this kind of love can know what it is". This is the kind of love the younger son experienced when he came back home. There is no question that he behaved badly. Yet when he came back home, what happened? His father didn't merely receive him back, he welcomed him back. And it was no half hearted or grudging welcome either. It was a warm, wholehearted, and prodigally generous welcome.

In the welcome the younger son got, Jesus shows us God's attitude to repentant sinners. If we are sinners, and which of us is not, then God loves us not less but more. It doesn't do us much good to be loved for being perfect. We need to be accepted and loved precisely as sinners.

The attitude of the older brother towards his younger brother is a mirror image of the attitude of the Pharisees to sinners. They would rather see a sinner damned than saved. Yet they were a very religious people. But what is the use of religion if it doesn't make a person more compassionate towards those who fall? All of us, to a greater or lesser extent, are in the shoes of the younger son. For which of us can say we have always been faithful? Do we not all squander God's grace and misuse his gifts? Which of us would like to be treated by God according to strict justice? Do we not all need more mercy than justice.

It is in and through our sins that we experience the goodness and mercy of Christ. If we never sinned, we'd never know his forgiveness. This is not an excuse for sinning. But it is nice to know that this is how God receives sinners. Saints bear witness to God's grace and fidelity, while sinners bear witness to God's love and mercy. For this a Jewish Rabbi says "When a father laments that his son has taken to evil ways what should he do? Love him all the more".

In today's parable or story, the infinite mercy of God, the father of saints and sinners, is brought out very clearly in the story of the younger son. Even though he abandoned his father, the father did not abandon him. The father's mercy was big enough and generous enough to forgive and forget. His love for his son was strong enough to smother any feelings of personal resentment. His son's return, humble and chastened, blotted out all his past failings and past. It was surely an occasion for general rejoicing. For the vast majority of us Christians, our message of consolation and hope is in the first part of today's parable. All of us have, many a time, been prodigal, ungrateful sons and daughters of our loving father. But He is still a father of infinite love, of boundless mercy. He is not only waiting for us to return, like the human father in the story, He is continually sending out messages to recall us and to help us on the return journey. Like the prodigal son, we may have squandered the gifts that our heavenly father gave us. We may have abused our freedom and broken his laws. We may now feel tattered and torn, but never forget it, our loving and merciful father is waiting for us with open arms to welcome us back the moment we come to ourselves and decide to return. Dear friends in Christ, God still needs us, remember his divine invitation in Isaiah 1:18. Come now let us set things right says the lord. Though your sins be like scarlet they may become white as snow. Though they may be crimson red, they may become white as wool. "Return says the lord, I will not remain angry with you, for I am merciful. (Jeremiah 3:12) As I live says the Lord, I have no pleasure in the death of anyone. Turn then and live". (Ezekiel 18:12) Repent and turn from your transgressions. (Ezekiel 18:30) The time of penance has come, the time to atone for our sins and to seek our salvation. May the lord help us to honor His divine invitation to repentance. Amen.

Have a Blessed Sunday and a grace filled Lenten Season!

Father Julian Ibemere
Pastor St Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

****We will be purging our sick list at the end of March. Please let us know who needs to remain on it by placing the name in the collection basket.**



Dear Lord, please wrap your arms around those who are hurting today, and let them feel how much You love them.

Al Acuna
 *Teresa Arevalo
 Amy Bell
 Brian Borelle
 Judy Brown
 Jo Bryant
 Mercedes Carrio
 Ken Carrol
 Nia Crisostomo
 *Karen Del Monaco
 *Mike Del Monaco
 Tony Derbot
 Margeret Eck
 Amanda Fiskell
 Joe Gibbons

Cheryl Hines
 *John Jackson
 Ron & Janice Gill
 Isabel Gonzalez
 Linda Hamtom
 Steve Kiser
 Alex B. Lucas Jr.
 *Frank Luciani
 Ken & Carol Lytle
 Mac McElroy
 George O'Conner
 Jeannie O'Conner
 Andres Papangellin
 Rudy Sheriff
 Linda Stagdale
 Lydia Perez
 Angeline Rahm
 Andrew Reyes
 Paul Scheller
 Eva Maria Smith
 *Al Stein
 Jessica Ann Vaughn
 Kim Weimer
 Anita Weimer
 Preston Weimer
 Marie Welter and Family
 Tiergan Whelan
 Nancy Wojeik

Please Pray for our Sick:

Gifts for God

Regular Collection:	\$ 1879.58
Mass Intentions	\$ 60.00
Votive Candle	\$ 27.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$
Parish Maintenance	\$ 25.00
Opportunity for Life	\$
Hall Rental	\$
Diocese Seminary	\$ 421.00
CCD Registration	\$
Easter Flowers	\$
Total	\$ 2412.58

March 16-17, 2019
Total Attendance - 423

Every First Friday of the Month is
 Anointing of the Sick and Adoration

4th Saturday of the Month Activities
5 Cent Bingo
10:00am-Noon
Martha's Ministry (after Bingo)
12:30PM until 2:30pm

****Clothing Ministry****
 We are now accepting WINTER clothing. Clothing may be left in the Fellowship Hall Atrium. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry. This is another program through Martha's Ministry.

Need a place to hold an event or a family gathering with friends, then why not rent the Parish Hall by contacting Dave Tilley at 931-237-5013

Special Lenten Project
Personal Hygiene items collection from March 3, 2019 to April 14, 2019. This will include toiletries such as body wash, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste & brushes, wipes, mouthwash etc. These items will be donated to TN State Veterans' Home and Manna Café in Clarksville. These items can be brought to any weekend Mass and brought up to the altar during Offertory.

Bulletin Board
 Have you stopped and checked out all that is going on here at St. Michael the Archangel! It is updated weekly by Lori Snodgrass. If you need anything added she can be reached at 931-919-2794.

Friday, 04/05
 MASS 9:00AM
Mass Intention: Regina Partridge †

Saturday, 04/06:
 Confessions 4:30AM
 MASS 5:00PM
Mass Intention: Colleen Anusewicz
 CCD Class 10:00AM
 MASS 11:30AM
Mass Intention: Tiergan Whelan

Sanctuary Candle Intention
March 31, 2019
Paul Stalls †

Activities/Meetings this Week:

Saturday, 03/30:	
Confessions	4:30PM
MASS	5:00PM
Mass Intention:	Pillar T Ojano †
Sunday, 03/31:	
MASS	8:30AM
Mass Intention:	Phero Tuyet Do †
CCD Class	10:00AM
MASS	11:30AM
Monday, 04/01:	
MASS	9:00AM
Mass Intention:	all living & deceased Kosaka, Pablo, & Teylon family members
Tuesday, 04/02:	
	NO MASS
Wednesday, 04/03:	
MASS	9:00AM
Mass Intention:	Samuel A Whelan
RCIA	7:00AM
Choir Practice	7:00AM
Thursday, 04/04:	
MASS	9:00AM
Mass Intention:	all living & deceased Kosaka, Pablo, & Teylon family members
Fridays	
Adoration of the Eucharist is on the First Friday following Mass until 12:00PM	
Every other Friday after Mass until 11:00AM	
Stations of the Cross during Lent	5:00PM