

**The Meaning of the Front Side of the Miraculous Medal**

Mary is standing upon a globe, crushing the head of a serpent beneath her foot. She stands upon the globe, as the Queen of Heaven and Earth. Her feet crush the serpent to proclaim Satan and all his followers are helpless before her (Gn 3:15). The year of 1830 on the Miraculous Medal is the year the Blessed Mother gave the design of the Miraculous Medal to Saint Catherine Labouré. The reference to Mary conceived without sin supports the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary—not to be confused with the virgin birth of Jesus, and referring to Mary's sinlessness, "full of grace" and "blessed among women" (Luke 1:28)—that was proclaimed 24 years later in 1854.

**The Meaning of the Back Side of the Miraculous Medal**

The twelve stars can refer to the Apostles, who represent the entire Church as it surrounds Mary. They also recall the vision of Saint John, writer of the Book of Revelation (12:1), in which "a great sign appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of 12 stars." The cross can symbolize Christ and our redemption, with the bar under the cross a sign of the earth. The "M" stands for Mary, and the interleaving of her initial and the cross shows Mary's close involvement with Jesus and our world. In this, we see Mary's part in our salvation and her role as mother of the Church. The two hearts represent the love of Jesus and Mary for us. (See also Lk 2:35).

**Mass Times and Feasts From November 27<sup>th</sup> – December 5<sup>th</sup>**

Date	Time	Devotion	Feast Day
Sunday, 27 <sup>th</sup>	7:30am 10:00am 4:00pm	Low Mass High Mass Low Mass	<b>I Sunday of Advent</b>
Monday, 28 <sup>th</sup>	—	—	<b>Advent Feria</b>
Tuesday, 29 <sup>th</sup>	—	—	<b>Advent Feria</b>
Wednesday, 30 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	Family Rosary in the Chapel - All Invited	<b>St. Andrew</b>
Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup>	—	—	<b>Advent feria (First Thursday)</b>
Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup>	5:00pm 6:00pm	Confessions Low Mass	<b>St. Bibiana (First Friday) Virgin and Martyr</b>
Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8:00am 9:00am	Confessions Low Mass	<b>St. Francis Xavier (First Saturday) Confessor</b>
Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup>	7:30am 10:00am 4:00pm	Low Mass High Mass Low Mass	<b>II Sunday of Advent</b>
Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup>	—	—	<b>Advent Feria Commemoration of St. Sabbas Abbot</b>

# ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CHURCH

THE SOCIETY OF SAINT PIUS X

November 27<sup>th</sup>, I Sunday of Advent



**Gregorian Latin liturgy**

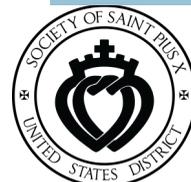
Until 1969, the various Catholic liturgies were all of apostolic origin. The Gregorian Latin liturgy, celebrated in this church, follows the tradition of Saint Peter, the first Pope, and has never undergone any essential change till the present time. Every gesture, every word has been weighed and measured with the assistance of the Holy Ghost for the greatest glory of God and the salvation of souls.

**Welcome, Visitors!**

We thank you for coming. Whether you are just visiting us for a brief time, looking for a spiritual home, are returning to the practice of Catholic faith or are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church; we are happy to have you here, as you are. Please take time to read this bulletin, to meet with the priest after Mass and to socialize.

**Hospitality**

*“Let the charity of the brotherhood abide in you and hospitality do not forget; for by this some, being not aware of it, have entertained angels.” (Heb. 13, 1-2) “Wherefore receive one another, as Christ also hath received you unto the honor of God.” (Rom. 15, 7)*



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**Fr. David Thomas FSPX- Chaplain**

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# News and Announcements

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**Feast of the Miraculous Medal:** Enrollments in the Miraculous Medal after each Mass today. Medals are available.

**Memorare Prayer:** Father Thomas asks that we pray the Memorare everyday for the intentions of the Holy Rosary church project.

**Dear faithful,**

I would like to announce the retirement of Mr. Bill Gulliford as chapel coordinator. For many years, Mr. Gulliford has shown tireless dedication to our community and chapel. The efforts of Mr. Gulliford are largely responsible for the preservation of the traditional Catholic community in Northeast Florida from the very beginnings of our chapel to the present time. He has been an indispensable leader, and I am very grateful for his commitment to the proper administration of the many functions of our chapel.

I have appointed Mr. Gabriel Quintas to fill this position. His appointment was made effective on Saturday after a period of coaching by Mr. Gulliford. Gabriel and his family first began assisting at Mass at St. Michael's in 2015, and after significant prayer and discussion he was selected to coordinate the various functions of the chapel. Our chapel and community are very dear to him, and he is honored to fill this role. He requests your prayers as he takes on this responsibility.

**May God bless you,**

**Father Thomas**

**Birth Announcement:**

† John and Tara Arcidiacono are happy to announce the arrival of Lorenzo Valentino Arcidiacono, born November 14th. The link to their Meal Train can be found here: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/2edz2e> Blessed be God.

**Ora et Labora** - December's chapel workday will take place after the 9 AM Mass on First Saturday, Dec 3rd. Lunch will be provided for those who sign up. See the list of tasks in the portable for details.

**Advent Almsgiving:** The Angel Tree is now set up and ready for you to retrieve your Angel. Pick who you'd like to shop for and return the Angel along with your unwrapped items in a bag beneath the tree no later than the 3rd Sunday of Advent. We will wrap the items for you! We have collection box as well to raise funds for the family we are sponsoring. Also, please be sure to check out the collection box for needed items for the homeless in our community. Thank you for your charity!

**Christmas Cards for Soldiers:** The Many thanks to the children and adults for their help with this Year's Christmas Cards for Soldiers. Together with St. Patrick's, St. Edward's, and St. Joseph's, 125 cards will be delivered to the 14 men on this year's list.

**Please pray for the faithful departed of St. Michael's**

Louis Selthoffer, Teresa Courtney, Joe Courtney, Mary Newland, Jim O'Brien, Mac Mruz, Ruth Mruz, Elizabeth Coughlin, Bill Crowley, Harry Nevin, Angela Berger, Terry Rice, Lucille Nichols, Sally Grounds, Brady Brower, Fern Brower, Russel Bucca, Mamie Bucca, Kenneth Hollis, Ila Jo Hollis, Jeffery Smith, Coburn Walker, Lillian Walker, David Walker, June Roberts, Phillip Graham, George Spositi, Roy Hatten, Eric Webber, Neil Ortagus, Stephanie Lorenzana, Asuncion Salazar Mella

## Miraculous Medal Story

### *The First Apparition*

The story begins on the night of July 18-19, 1830. A child (perhaps her guardian angel) awakened Sister (now Saint) Catherine Labouré, a novice in the community of the Daughters of Charity in Paris, and summoned her to the chapel. There she met with the Virgin Mary and spoke with her for several hours. During the conversation, Mary said to her, "My child, I am going to give you a mission."

### *The Second Apparition*

Mary gave her this mission in a vision during evening meditation on November 27, 1830. She saw Mary standing on what seemed to be half a globe and holding a golden globe in her hands as if offering it to heaven. On the globe was the word "France," and our Lady explained that the globe represented the whole world, but especially France. Streaming from rings on Mary's fingers as she held the globe were many rays of light. Mary explained that the rays symbolize the graces she obtains for those who ask for them. However, some of the gems on the rings were dark, and Mary explained that the rays and graces were available but did not come because no one had asked for them.

### *The Third Apparition and the Miraculous Medal*

The vision then changed to show our Lady standing on a globe with her arms now outstretched and with the dazzling rays of light still streaming from her fingers. Framing the figure was an inscription: O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. The vision turned and showed the design of the reverse side of the medal. Twelve stars encircled a large "M" from which arose a cross. Below are two hearts with flames arising from them. Thorns encircle one heart and a sword pierces the other.

Then Mary spoke to Catherine: "Have a medal struck upon this model. Those who wear it will receive great graces, especially if they wear it around the neck." Catherine explained the entire series of apparitions to her confessor, and she worked through him to carry out Mary's instructions. She did not reveal that she received the Medal until soon before her death 46 years later.

With approval of the Church, the first Medals were made in 1832 and were distributed in Paris. Almost immediately the blessings that Mary had promised began to shower down on those who wore her Medal. The devotion spread like wildfire. Marvels of grace and health, peace and prosperity, followed in its wake. Before long people were calling it the "Miraculous" Medal. In 1836, a canonical inquiry undertaken at Paris declared the apparitions to be genuine.

There is no superstition, nothing of magic, connected with the Miraculous Medal. The Miraculous Medal is not a "good-luck charm". Rather, it is a great testimony to faith and the power of trusting prayer. Its greatest miracles are those of patience, forgiveness, repentance, and faith. God uses the Medal, not as a sacrament, but as an agent, an instrument, in bringing to pass certain marvelous results. "The weak things of this earth hath God chosen to confound the strong."

When our Blessed Mother gave the design of the medal to Saint Catherine Labouré she said, "Now it must be given to the whole world and to every person."

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*"The LORD is in his Holy Temple; let all the earth keep  
silence before Him." (Hab. 2, 20)*

