

December 15, 2024 Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)

Welcome to the Churches of

St. Paul &
St. Michael



Father Randal Kasel, Pastor frkasel@bevcomm.net

Josefina Meyer & Sara McNamara, Staff

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL 749 South Main St., Zumbrota, MN 55992

Office: 732-5324 Fax: (507) 732-5347 Email: stpauls@hcinet.net

OFFICE HOURS: Tues & Thurs 9am-noon, 1-5pm, Wed Closed, Fri 9am-noon

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL 451 5th St. SW, Pine Island, MN 55963

Office: 356-4280 Fax: (507)356-2080 Email: stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net

OFFICE HOURS: Tues-Thurs 9am-noon & 1pm-5pm, Fri 9am-noon

Website: <http://www.stpaulstmichael.com>

BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE All articles for the bulletin are due by noon on

Wednesday. Please e-mail Saint Paul articles to stpauls@hcinet.net and Saint Michael articles to stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net. The business office reserves the right to edit articles as time and space allows.

From Father Kasel

Praised be Jesus Christ through Mary!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

We have already arrived at the third Sunday of Advent! If you have not done so, I encourage you to make plans for an individual sacramental Confession during these final days of Advent. You can find the schedule in this bulletin.

This week I want to emphasize some possible Christmas traditions that you and your family may like to add to the ones you already do.

- 1. The Nativity Scene: This practice was made popular by St. Francis of Assisi. Many people are collectors of various styles and types of Nativity scenes. Taking time as a family to put out a Nativity scene and add the various characters on the particular liturgical days enhances the devotion and meaning of this practice (ie: the manger and animals several days before Christmas; Jesus and Mary shortly before Christmas; the Christ-child, shepherds and angels Christmas eve; and the Magi at Epiphany – January 6 or Epiphany Sunday). With each addition the family can gather for prayer which may include the litany of the Virgin Mary or St. Joseph, a prayer to the Holy Family, the rosary or some other suitable prayer.
2. The Family Rosary: Taking time to pray a five-decade rosary or even one decade each day will help your family grow during the remaining days of Advent and in the Christmas Season. Maybe, if you are not doing this now, it will become a habit that will happen every day!
3. Christmas Baking: My grandmother and my mother have been prolific Christmas bakers. I have many happy memories of coming home from school smelling something good in the kitchen. Of course I would try a few (too many!) of whatever type of cookie was warm on the counter. Christmas baking is a great activity to bring the whole family together. Also, I do not think moms should let dad just sit there during Christmas baking. They can crack eggs, mix ingredients and try the warm cookies, too. Notice I did not say dads should put items in the oven or take them out. I know that some dads, but not all, are challenged in this area.
4. Family Prayer asking for God's blessing upon a Christmas Tree: Here is a possible blessing you could use: Dear God, two thousand years ago, You sent Your Son, Jesus into this world to teach us the power of Your love and the meaning sacrifice for the redemption of the human family. As we raise this tree, we remember His birth and the meaning of His life for us. We ask You to bless this tree and make it a symbol of our celebration of Jesus' birth and our gratitude for His sacrifice. May the joy this tree offers and the gifts we place under it remind us of the many gifts You have given us. We ask Your (continued on page 4)

We are happy that you are here! If you are new to our parishes, please call or stop at the Parish Office. We would love to meet you and answer any questions that you might have!

SACRAMENTS

Confession - Saturday 4:00pm at St. Michael; Sunday 8:25am at St. Paul and 8:00am before daily weekday Holy Mass at both parishes.
Baptism - Please contact the parish office.
Matrimony - Please call Father Kasel at least six months prior to make arrangements.
Anointing of the Sick - This is for someone who is seriously ill, dealing with major surgery or infirm. Please contact Father Kasel to make arrangements.

WEEKEND HOLY MASS SCHEDULE:

Church of Saint Paul - Sunday Confessions at 8:25am, Rosary at 8:20am, Mass at 8:45am
Church of Saint Michael - Saturday Confessions at 4:00pm, Rosary at 4:35pm, Mass at 5:00pm
Church of Saint Michael - Sunday Mass at 7:00am, Rosary at 10:05am, Mass at 10:30am

WEEKDAY HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Church of Saint Paul - Tuesday and Thursday Confession 8am & Mass 8:30am, Rosary at 8:10am before Mass
Church of Saint Michael - Wednesday and Friday Confession 8am and Mass 8:30am

We invite you to worship our Savior with us this Advent and Christmas Season!

Individual Confession times during Advent*:

Table with 3 columns: Day, Church, Time. Rows include Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays for both St. Michael and St. Paul.

*The Sacrament of Confession is also offered before each weekday Holy Mass

Holy Mass on Christmas Eve:

Table with 3 columns: Day, Church, Time. Rows for Tuesday, December 24 at both churches.

Holy Mass on Christmas Day:

Table with 3 columns: Day, Church, Time. Rows for Wednesday, December 25 at both churches.

Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Holy Mary, Mother of God - January 1 (Holy Day of Obligation)

Table with 3 columns: Day, Church, Time. Rows for Tuesday, Wednesday, and January 1 at both churches.

The next Holy Hour for Women will be Sunday, December 29, at 6:00pm at the Church of St. Michael. All women are invited!

CHURCH OF SAINT MICHAEL NEWS

CHURCH OF St. Michael FAITH FORMATION:

The next **Faith Formation** session will be on Wednesday, January 15, at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island.

Topic for January: *The Church (PreK- Grade 6) & The Eucharist, Center of all Sacramental Life (Confirmation 1, 2, & Adults)*

Below is the schedule:

6:00-6:30pm - Meal
6:35-7:25pm - Children Class/Parent & Adult Session
7:30-7:45pm - Church for Adoration

At 7:30pm all students, parents and teachers gather in the Church for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

Our program is open for all of our parishioners to attend and it will benefit all ages!

Youth Group Event! All Youth, Grades 7-12, are invited for a prayer, food, and game night **Friday, December 20**, from 6:30-8:30pm at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island. Fr. Kasel will give a talk. All high school students and confirmation candidates are invited to this youth event. Please RSVP to our parish offices! *God bless you!* **We are planning to have a small gift exchange—if possible, please plan for a gift item of approximately \$5 or so for each of your children.**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rosalie Alar, (mother of Fr. Chris Alar, MIC) who passed away December 10, 2024. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*



Christmas Flowers: This year we will again be collecting Christmas Flower offerings for the purchase of poinsettias for the Christmas Season. You will find a Christmas Flower envelope in your packet. The suggested donation is \$13. Please put your envelope in the collection basket by Sunday, Dec. 15. If you miss this deadline, please drop off donation at the Church office the following week. Any money collected over the cost of the Christmas flowers will be used for flowers in the sanctuary throughout the year. Thank you and God bless you!

DIAPER DRIVE: Make a donation to Olmsted County MCCL! MCCL has partnered with EveryLife, the nation's first and only pro-life diaper company, to provide affordable, premium diapers to moms and babies in need! Pregnancy centers in YOUR area are low on diapers, especially sizes 3-6. Here's how you can help: **Go** to EveryLife.com, use code MCCL10 for 10% off at checkout and have your order delivered to 60677 227th Ave, Mantorville MN 55955 **Or make** a donation to Olmsted County MCCL, who will purchase diapers at 25% off and distribute them to the Rochester area PRCs in need! Contact Linda 507-259-4035 for more information.

Calling all bookworms! Join the Catholic Authors Book Study. We rotate between spiritual books, literature and writings of Doctors of the Church. In December, we will be discussing *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. We meet every 2 - 3 weeks, usually on Tuesdays from 7 - 8:30 pm in Rochester. Join us! See <https://archspm.groupvitals.com/groupfinder/profile/72459> or contact the parish office.

Institute of Catholic Culture Lecture Series

ALMA REDEMPTORIS MATER: *Melodies in Honor of the Mother of God*

“Loving Mother of the Redeemer, who remains the accessible Gate of Heaven and Star of the Sea, give aid to a falling people that strives to rise.” Join the ICC for a concert by Floriani on the Marian hymns of Advent & Christmas to meditate on her central role in the mystery of salvation.

Details: Wednesday, December 18

Pre-Class Discussion: 7:30pm EST, Lecture: 8:00pm EST

Instructor: Floriani Registration is required. <https://instituteofcatholicculture.org/events/alma-redemptoris-mater-2>

Pine Island Food Shelf: Items requested for December: Your choice!

WEEKLY TITHING December 7-8, 2024

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 2,810.00
Plate:	\$ 550.25
EFT:	\$ 960.00
Total:	\$ 4,320.25

Cemetery Collection:	\$ 1,875.00
Kitui Mission Collection (for Nov.):	\$ 311.00
Retired Religious Collection:	\$ 1,393.00
Thanksgiving Collection:	\$ 1,598.47

Holiday Tea - Thank you!

Thank you to all parishioners for their participation in our St. Michael Holiday Tea! Your donations and time given are very much appreciated - may God reward you! *St. Gianna Molla Guild and Fr. Kasel*

Congratulations to the Holiday Tea Raffle winners:

Gift Certificate-Hubbell House: Paula Plummer
Made by our Parishioners Basket: Mary Reina
Coffee Lovers Basket: Jaime Sorum
Sweet Basket: Katie Brost
Holy Family Statue: Ann Kreidermacher
Handmade Quilt: Eileen Oliver



Miriam Dinner – Tuesday, January 21, 6-8 p.m., Archdiocesan Catholic Center, St. Paul

Hosted by Archbishop Bernard Hebda and Fr. Mark Pavlak, vocation director, this dinner is for women, ages 16-34, who are discerning consecrated life. It is typical for discerning women to be accompanied by their pastor, consecrated religious, or youth minister. The evening begins with prayer, followed by dinner with consecrated women sharing their vocations testimonies and tips for growing in holiness and learning more about how to discern. Registration is required by Friday, January 17. Find more information at 10000vocations.org/miriam-dinner.html.

Vianney Visit – Thursday, February 13-Saturday, February 15, Saint John Vianney College Seminary, St. Paul
Men in high school or college (age 16-24) who do not have a college degree are invited to get a closer look at college seminary life with this Vianney Visit. There will be testimonies from current seminarians, spiritual conferences with SJV priests, prayer with the community, and a tour of the University of St. Thomas. There may also be the option to meet individually with priests on staff or the rector. Space is limited. Find more information and registration at sjvseminary.org/visit-the-seminary.

HOLY MASS TIMES

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass
9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, December 20, 2024

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass

Saturday, December 21, 2024

4:00pm-4:50pm Confessions
5:00pm Holy Mass

Sunday, December 22, 2024

7:00am Latin Holy Mass
10:30am Holy Mass

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

December 18, 2024	†Marcine Miller
December 20, 2024	Vietnamese families intentions
December 21, 2024	†Sarah Murray
December 22, 2024	Parishioners
December 22, 2024	Elizabeth Jarrett (Carolyn Ocariz)



CHURCH OF SAINT PAUL NEWS

CHURCH OF St. Paul FAITH FORMATION:

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7:30-7:45pm - Church for Adoration

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Our program is open for all of our parishioners to attend and it will benefit all ages!



Prayer to the Virgin Mary: My Queen, my Mother, I give myself entirely to you, and to show my devotion to you, I consecrate to you this day my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my entire self without reserve. As I am your own, my good Mother, guard me and defend me as your property and possession. Amen.

Eve and Mary

“The Lord, coming into His own creation in visible form, was sustained by His own creation which He Himself sustains in being. His obedience on the tree of the Cross reversed the disobedience at the tree in Eden; the Good News of the Truth announced by an Angel to Mary, a Virgin subject to a husband, undid the evil lie that seduced Eve, a virgin espoused to a husband.

As Eve was seduced by the word of an Angel and so fled from God after disobeying His Word, Mary in her turn was given the Good News by the word of an Angel, and bore God in obedience to His Word. As Eve was seduced into disobedience to God, so Mary was persuaded into obedience to God; thus the Virgin Mary became the advocate of the virgin Eve.

Christ gathered all things into one, by gathering them into Himself. He declared war against our enemy, crushed him who at the beginning had taken us captive in Adam, and trampled on his head, in accordance with God's words to the serpent in Genesis: I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall lie in wait for your head, and you shall lie in wait for His heel.

The One lying in wait for the serpent's head is the One who was born in the likeness of Adam from the Woman, the Virgin. This is the seed spoken of by Paul in the letter to the Galatians: The law of works was in force until the Seed should come to whom the promise was made.

He shows this even more clearly in the same letter when he says: When the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a Woman.

The enemy would not have been defeated fairly if his vanquisher had not been born of a Woman, because it was through a woman that he had gained mastery over man in the beginning, and set himself up as man's adversary.

That is why the Lord proclaims Himself the Son of Man, the One who renews in Himself that first man from whom the race born of woman was formed; as by a man's defeat our race fell into the bondage of death, so by a Man's victory we were to rise again to Life.” (St. Ireneus in his treatise entitled: ‘Against Heresies’, Book III, Chapter 22)

Students for Life March and Rally - Wednesday, January 22, 9am-2:30pm., St. Agnes, St. Paul to Minnesota State Capitol. This day for youth will include excellent speakers, breakouts, Mass, as well as a Eucharistic procession to the Minnesota State Capitol to attend the Minnesota March for Life.

Give the gift of an Hour of Adoration for someone. Cards are in the vestibule to send to the recipient.

WEEKLY TITHING December 8, 2024

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 3,400.00
Plate:	\$ 230.51
Total:	\$ 3,630.51
Cemetery Collection:	\$ 408.00
Retired Religious Collection:	\$ 584.00
Thanksgiving Collection:	\$ 327.00

Christmas Flowers: This year we will again be collecting Christmas Flower offerings for the purchase of poinsettias for the Christmas Season. You will find a Christmas Flower envelope in your packet. The suggested donation is \$13. Please put your envelope in the collection basket by Sunday, Dec. 15. If you miss this deadline, please drop off donation at the Church office the following week. Thank you and God bless you!



Diaper Drive: Catholic Daughters of America is sponsoring a Diaper Drive for First Choice Clinic from December 1- January 5. Sizes 3-7 are most needed. Leave diaper donations in the church entrance. Catholic daughters will match \$1,000 worth of diapers donated. Thank you!

WORDS TO LIVE BY:

“You ask me whether I am in good spirits. How could I not be so? As long as Faith gives me strength, I will always be joyful.” *Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati*

“If we wish to serve God and love our neighbor well, we must manifest our joy in the service we render to Him and them. Let us open wide our hearts. It is joy which invites us. Press forward and fear nothing.” *St. Katharine Drexel*

“If you have no earthly consolation, why do you not seek consolation in the heart of Jesus? To Love Him is truest joy.” *St. Rose Philippine Duchesne*

“God made us for joy. God is joy, and the joy of living reflects the Original Joy that God felt in creating us.” *St. John Paul II*

“When we are expecting only suffering, the least joy surprises us: Suffering itself becomes the greatest joys when we seek it as a precious treasure.” *St. Thérèse de Lisieux*

“The true way to advance in holy virtues, is to persevere in a holy cheerfulness.” *St. Philip Neri*

“The Lord looked into the depth of my being with great kindness; I thought I would die for joy under that gaze.” *St. Faustina*

“Joy, with Peace, is the sister of Charity. Serve the Lord with laughter.” *St. Padre Pio*

Miriam Dinner – Tuesday, January 21, 6-8pm, Archdiocesan Catholic Center, St. Paul, Hosted by Archbishop Bernard Hebda and Fr. Mark Pavlak, vocation director, this dinner is for women, ages 16-34, who are discerning consecrated life. It is typical for discerning women to be accompanied by their pastor, consecrated religious, or youth minister. The evening begins with prayer, followed by dinner with consecrated women sharing their vocations testimonies and tips for growing in holiness and learning more about how to discern. Registration is required by Friday, January 17. Find more information at 10000vocations.org/miriam-dinner.html.

HOLY MASS TIMES

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass

9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, December 19, 2024

8:00am Confession/8:30am Holy Mass

Sunday, December 22, 2024

8:20am Rosary/8:25am Confessions

8:45am Holy Mass

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS



December 17, 2024

Jody Yates (Dawn & John Udenberg)

December 19, 2024

†Sarah Murray (Gary & Char Murray)

December 22, 2024

Parishioners

NEWS FROM SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT PAUL

(from page 1) blessings upon our loved ones, this day and always. Amen. (Credit [with edits by Fr. Kasel]: National Shrine of Our Lady of Providence, USA)

5. Family Prayer at the time of gathering to celebrate Christmas:

It is very important that family gatherings keep in mind the reason for gathering: the newborn Christ-child! I suggest prayer that goes beyond the before and after meal prayers. I suggest the family make it a priority to attend Holy Christmas Mass together and pray the rosary at some point during the gathering (especially the Joyful Mysteries).

6. Christmas hymns and sharing gratitude: Singing Christmas hymns brings everyone together and enlivens hearts; also give each member of the family a chance to share with others any reasons why he or she is thankful to God and others in the family.

7. Sharing of gifts: This wonderful family custom should be offered and received as a sign of mutual love, respect and gratitude. Gift-giving should in some way reflect our own personal gratitude and love for the greatest gift of all time: Jesus! Take time emphasize this with children and allow family members to use words during the sharing of gifts.

These are just a few ideas for your families and I am sure that many of you have some wonderful practices that I have not mentioned. If you do, please pass them on to me.

Through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, St. Michael and St. Paul, may God bless you, your families and our parishes!

In Christ through Mary,
Fr. Kasel

PRO-LIFE QUOTES:

If the bringing of children into the world is today an economic burden, it is because the social system is inadequate; and not because God's law is wrong. Therefore the State should remove the causes of that burden. The human must not be limited and controlled to fit the economic, but the economic must be expanded to fit the human." *Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen*

As far as abortion is concerned, it's part of the fifth, not the sixth, commandment: "Thou shalt not kill!" We have to presume this is obvious and always stress that the human person begins in the mother's womb and remains a human person until his or her last breath. The human person must always be respected as a human person. *Pope Benedict XV*

Andrew Dinner – Tuesday, February 25, 6-8 p.m., Archdiocesan Catholic Center, St. Paul

The Andrew Dinner is an opportunity for men, ages 16 - 50, who are interested in learning more about the priesthood. The dinner is hosted by Archbishop Bernard Hebda and Father Mark Pavlak, vocation director. The evening includes prayer, dinner and conversation with vocations testimonies on priesthood and religious life. It is typical for a pastor, deacon, religious or youth minister to accompany each discerning guest. Registration deadline is Friday, January 21. Find more information and registration at 10000vocations.org.



†**ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT**†
Can you spend an hour with Jesus? Adoration is held at St. Paul, Zumbrota on Tuesdays from 9am-5pm and St. Michael, Pine Island on Wednesdays from 9am-5pm.

 Buy one Blizzard at regular price, get 2nd Blizzard at 99¢! 215 E. 18th St. Zumbrota 732-5910	ZUMBROTA MINI STORAGE LIGHTING—PAVED 24 HOUR ACCESS 507-696-4406	 Hub Food Center 228 West Ave. Zumbrota 507-732-7329 http://www.nilssensfoods.com	Steve Johnson's  Hwy 52 & 58 in Zumbrota 507-732-5127 www.zumbrotaford.com	 Foot Care Service 507-269-7827 3708 Broadway Ave N. Suite 130, Rochester, MN 55906 footcareprofessionalsllc@gmail.com Care provided by Sheila Buehler, APRN, CNP, CFCS Certified Foot Care Specialist Helping YOU live well with YOUR feet!	
 Pork & Plants Heritage Farm ERIC KREIDERMACHER & FAMILY Red Wattle Pork* Grass-fed Beef* Pastured Chicken* *no corn, no soy, non-GMO, and vaccine free Meat is available year-round as individual cuts, bundles, and whole or half animals. Pickup and limited delivery available (507) 458-2175 Email: eric@porkandplants.com www.porkandplants.com "Healthy Land, Healthy Meat, Healthy Families"	Mahn Family Funeral Homes Larson Chapel 1475 Jefferson Dr. Zumbrota, MN (507) 732-5444 Mahler Chapel 209 NW 1st Ave. Pine Island, MN (507) 356-4620 mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com	QUARRY HILL FAMILY DENTAL DR. MOLLY JARRETT PARISHIONER Mondays 7am-5pm, Tuesdays 8am-5pm, Wednesdays 7am-5pm, Thursdays 1-7pm 507-216-9891 828 11th Ave NE, Rochester, MN www.quarryhillfamilydental.com			
 TOM & SCOTT SHANE Commercial & Industrial 507-824-2191	Owen Locker Plant  110 2nd St. NE Pine Island, MN 55963 507-356-8612	 507-732-4777 24 Hr. Emergency Service Residential & Light Commercial Serving Zumbrota & Surrounding Communities	Comfortable, Convenient Dental Care for the Entire Family! 		
Safe Environment: The Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis requires all volunteers who interact with minors or vulnerable adults to complete the Essential 3 (background check, Code of Conduct, and VIRTUS training) before beginning their service, and to renew every three years while serving. Please contact the Safe Environment Coordinator for details on how to register for a VIRTUS class, complete the Essential 3, or do updates.		Parish Safe Environment Coordinator: Sara McNamara St. Michael: 507-356-4280 stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net St. Paul: 507-732-5324 stpauls@hcinet.net St. Paul/Minneapolis Archdiocese Victim Assistance Program Hotline: (651) 291-4475	For Plot Information Call the Parish Office Church of St. Michael Cemetery 507-356-4280 Church of St. Paul Cemetery 507-732-5324* <i>"Remember To Pray For Our Beloved Departed."</i>	ST. PIO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 16016 JOIN US Brother Knights of our Council invite you to join us. Contact the Parish Office visit: www.kofc.org/join	