

# St. Michael's & St. Mary's

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St. Michael's	PO Box 406, Fairbury, NE 68352	Phone: 729-2058
St. Mary's	5th & Amanda Streets, Alexandria, NE	
St. Michael's Prayer Chain	Carmen Juarez: 729-3623	

4<sup>TH</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2015



*St. Michael's and St. Mary's Parishes would like to extend a warm welcome to all who are visiting us or are new to the area. If you are not currently registered at St. Michael's or St. Mary's and consider this your Parish, please call the Rectory at 729-2058.*

**St. Mary's Parish Council:** Duane Bartek, Ritchie Burkhart, Peggy Niederklein, Rhonda Burkhart and Donna Rut **Trustees:** Bob VanWesten and Bob Bachle

**St. Mary's PCCW:** Deb Vanwesten

**St. Michael's Parish Council:** Mary Mach, Eddie Lytle, Devin Lovgren, Doug Kapke, LeAnn Krause, Dave Panko, Dave Banahan and Bruce Busing

**Trustees:** Keith Mach and Randy Prellwitz

**St. Michael's PCCW:** Lorraine Borch

**Knights of Columbus:** Dan Arner

**CCD Coordinator:** Mary Mach

<b>Ministers' Schedules for Next Weekend</b>			
	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	Ronn Brackle	24 <sup>th</sup> : Jim VanWesten Bob Vanwesten	Randly Prellwitz
<b>Lector</b>	Keith Mach	24 <sup>th</sup> : Rhonda Burkhart Daryl Anderson	Charlie Barringer
<b>Server</b>	Brock Beed		Devin Wanamaker
<b>Server</b>	Connor Gerths		Salvador Chavez
<b>Music</b>	Mary Banahan	Lorrie Hofstetter	Mary Prellwitz
<b>Gifts/Greeters</b>		24 <sup>th</sup> : Bob & Donna Milius Bob & Trish Endorf	Kellene Polson
<b>Collection</b>	Steve Graff & Father Birkel		

**NOTICE:** Starting January 2016 we have prepared a new Lay Ministry Schedule. If you are unable to fulfill your assigned time on a regular rotated basis please contact the office at (402) 729-2058 or email [frjohn@stmichaelsfairbury.org](mailto:frjohn@stmichaelsfairbury.org). If you are unable to fulfill an individual assignment please contact another Lay Minister.

**ALERT:** Due to Christmas and New Year's falling on Friday, all bulletin notices must be submitted by Tues at noon.

- **BULLETIN:** If you have news for the bulletin, please call the Rectory 729-2058 or or email [info@stmichaelsfairbury.org](mailto:info@stmichaelsfairbury.org) News must be in Thursday by 10:00 AM to be in the week's bulletin.
- **ADOPT A PRIEST:** Our Deanery is taking part in the "Adopt a Priest" program. St. Michael's has adopted **Fr. Leo Seiker**; please keep him in your prayers.
- **SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK:** Please keep our Seminarian of the week, **Jason Doherty**, in your prayers.

<b>THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE</b>				
Monday	December 21		St. Michael's	No Mass
Tuesday	December 22	12:10PM	St. Michael's	Lindsey Rickstrew+
Wednesday	December 23	12:10PM	St. Michael's	Robert Smith+
<b>Thursday Christmas Eve</b>	December 24	4:00PM	St. Michael's	For the Intentions on the tree of Memories
		6:00PM	St. Mary's	People of the Parishes
<b>Friday Christmas</b>	December 25	9:00AM	St. Michael's	Special Intention
Saturday	December 26	5:30 PM	St. Michael's	Walter & Dorrine Millius+
Sunday	December 27	8:00 AM	St. Mary's	The People of the Parishes
Sunday	December 27	10:00 AM	St. Michael's	Deceased Members of George & Catharine Nutsch family
<b>Confessions</b>	St. Michael's	Saturday	4:45 PM to 5:15 PM	
	St. Mary's	Sunday	7:45 AM	

**Please pray for:** Betty (Mrs. Morgan) Brackle, Iola Busing, Rose O'Keefe, Vonja Scheer, Doug Wiedel, Leona Gaydusek, Zachary Rowe, Noelle Salazar, Brad Eveleth, Bob McCord, Eddie Lytle, Rita Stone, Darren Martinez, Marie Kosmacek, Military Personnel, all the unborn children & their parents, pro-life legislation, and anyone else who maybe ailing. *If you or someone you know would like our parish family to join you in prayer for their special needs, please contact the parish office.*

# Parish News & Upcoming Events

## **Parish collection data:**

	<b><u>St. Michael's</u></b>	<b><u>St. Mary's</u></b>
<b>12/13/2015</b>		
Adult	\$1,752.00	\$175.00
Plate	137.00	51.75
Holy Day	50.00	
Building Fund	25.00	
Children	18.00	
Debt Retirement	1,060.00	
<b>Total</b>	\$3,042.00	\$226.75
<b>Flowers</b>	\$179.25	

St Michael's Debt Reduction current total \$1,060.00.

**Thought of the Week:** Mary went without delay to communicate her joy to her cousin Elizabeth...This is the real commitment of Advent: to bring joy to others. Joy is the true gift of Christmas, not expensive presents that demand time and money.

*– Pope Benedict XVI*

**Christmas Decorating Clean Up**---There was a great turnout for the church Christmas decorating day. Thank you to all. It is now time for taking down and putting away. The date and time has been set for Sunday January 10 immediately following the after mass K of C pancake feed. We will also be doing some general clean up---vacuuming and dusting---so please bring your favorite vacuum to get under the pews and up the steps to the choir loft. Also, please bring swiffers and dust cloths to dust the pews, railings, window sills, statues and stations. We will not be cleaning the Altar area. Bring the family and your best friends and we will make short work of all of this.

**PCCW---The yearbook** will be ready for pick up in January. The chairmen and committees will stay the same unless you notify us otherwise by January 1, 2016. If you need to make a change, notify any officer or Father. Also, please notify us of any phone # changes--there seem to be quite a few of those, please check closely. Also, let us know of any other mistakes or omissions. Thank you.

**PCCW---We are in need of a president.** The office is not difficult, but does require a monthly meeting moderator and overseeing/checking on committees each month to insure a "smooth operation". All women of the parish are automatically members, please give this serious consideration as the same few should not be asked to take on these responsibilities year after year.

**PCCW---College Students**--PCCW will send thinking of you/study encouragement cards to all parish students and or young service people of the parish. So, parents, please let us know who and where your son or daughter are, so they can be included. Thank you.

**Listed are winners** of St. Michaels Christmas raffle. Pewter music box - Lila Thomas, \$100 Mary Kay gift certificate-Justin Schmit, \$100 cash prize from Dave BanahanTrucking-Cindy Blackburn, Sofa Mate from Barbers Home furnishing-Emma Young , Ham from Livingston Enterprise- Sherrill Goeking, Oil change from C&O ford-Catherine Thomas., Gift certificate for First Friday wine tasting-Linda Hersmeier, \$50 cash prize from Rosalie Tynan-LeRoy Vetch, \$100 cash prize from Jan Weeks-Barrett Miller grandson of Larae Endorf, 31 bag from Lori Arnold-Sue Hynek.

**Thank you to the donors of our raffle prizes.**

**Mass in Loma:** Mass will be offered in St. Luke's Czech Catholic Shrine in Loma, on Sunday, December 20, at 4:00 p.m. A concert of Christmas music led by the Ostry Family Singers will precede the Mass at 3:30 p.m. All are welcome! (N.B. if this is of interest to anyone, please let me know, or I will discontinue these notices. FJB)

**Penance Services/Confessions:**

**Beatrice** from 3-5PM Sunday December 20 (Four Priests available.)

**Fairbury** from 7-7:30PM Sunday December 20<sup>th</sup> (Three Priests available.)

**Hebron** from 7-7:40pm Tuesday December 22<sup>nd</sup> (Four Priests available.)

**6<sup>th</sup> annual LDCCW Winter Symposium** at Waverly Retreat House is for all ladies of the Diocese: Friday & Saturday, Jan. 15 and 16. The theme is "Seeking God through works of mercy." Friday evening begins at 7:30 p.m. with a Rosary Vigil for the Unborn followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet (sung) and Marian songs led by Ellen Soukup and a wine & cheese social. Saturday will run from 8:30-3:00, with local speakers and two panels consisting of (1) Sisters from the Lincoln Diocese and (2) Mothers of Religious Sisters. The Most Reverend Bishop James D. Conley will celebrate Mass at 11:15 a.m.. Call or email the Retreat House (402-786-2795 or <http://www.goodcounselretreat.com/retreat/schedule>) to sign up.

**Keep Christ in Christmas:** The Knights of Columbus want to thank members of the parish for their support in the purchase of religious themed Christmas Cards. Total amount received was \$373.00 in sales. The \$225.00 in profits will be used for seminarian support.

**Building the Domestic Church:** The Knights of Columbus will be giving each family the booklet "The Family Fully Alive" prior to weekend Masses on Dec 19 and 20. This book provides various activities that involve the family in meditation, family projects, and a Scripture Reading of the Month. The Supreme Knight Carl Anderson explains the importance of overcoming the challenges facing the "traditional" family of today in his introduction to the booklet. Copies of the booklet in Spanish will be available upon request.

**St. Mary's** will have a Christmas breakfast on December 20! Everyone is to bring rolls. Also, we will decorate the church for Christmas after the breakfast.

**There is a** sign-up sheet for Christmas Ministries. Please volunteer.

**Prayer Cards available:** with a Prayer of Renunciation, Deliverance & Healing are on the back table.

**Best of Northern Ireland & the Republic of Ireland.** 11 days.  
April 18-28, 2016, led by veteran pilgrimage leader Father John Vakulskas. Belfast, Derry, Shrine of Knock, Shrine at Ballymoe dedicated to Father Flanagan, founder of Boys Town, Galway, Ring f Kerry, Kilarney, Connemara, Dublin & much more. R/T Omaha \$3229. Includes R/T air, tours, transfers most meals, First class hotels, daily Mass & free time. Limited seat, For more info: Fr John Vakulskas PO Box 347 Okoboji, IA 51355 712-490-8047 or [johnvakulskas@gmail.com](mailto:johnvakulskas@gmail.com)

**CCD:** Classes are from 6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please do not drop your children off before 6:35 p.m., because there will not be any adult supervision. **We are in need of substitute teachers, please contact Mary Mach (300-0321) or Fr. John (729-2058).** Please remember to enter the driveway on E street and exit on 8<sup>th</sup> street.

**Year of Consecrated Life** continues until February 2, 2016.  
Make a pilgrimage, adopt a community, and find out more ways to celebrate our Religious at [www.lincoln.diocese.org/ycl](http://www.lincoln.diocese.org/ycl).

**December Church Cleaning for St. Mary's:** Peggy Niederklein

**W**hen they have arrived at the sanctuary, the Priest, the Deacon, and the ministers reverence the altar with a profound bow.

Moreover, as an expression of veneration, the Priest and Deacon then kiss the altar itself; the Priest, if appropriate, also incenses the cross and the altar.

50. When the Entrance Chant is concluded, the Priest stands at the chair and, together with the whole gathering, signs himself with the Sign of the Cross. Then by means of the Greeting he signifies the presence of the Lord to the assembled community. By this greeting and the people's response, the mystery of the Church gathered together is made manifest.

After the greeting of the people, the Priest, or the Deacon, or a lay minister may very briefly introduce the faithful to the Mass of the day.

*(General instruction of the Roman Missal #49-50)*





