



# St. Michael's / St. Mary's

FR. JOHN B. BIRKEL, PASTOR

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St. Michael's PO Box 406, Fairbury, NE 68352

St. Mary's 5th & Amanda Streets, Alexandria, NE

Confession schedule: Saturday 4:45 PM to 5:15 PM

7th Sunday of Ordinary Time

February 20, 2022

**BULLETIN:** If you have news for the bulletin, please call the Rectory 402-729-2058 or email st.michael.fairbury@gmail.com. Deadline for additions -Wednesday by 9:00 AM.

**ADOPT A PRIEST:** Our Deanery is taking part in the "Adopt a Priest" program. St. Michael's has adopted Fr. Leo Seiker; Please pray for him.

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 (402) 729-2058.

St. Mary's Parish Council: Duane Bartek & Ritchie Burkhart *Trustees:* Bob VanWesten and Bob Bachle

St. Michael's Parish Council: Chris Higgins, Bethany Hansmire, LeAnn Krause, Mary Prellwitz and John Ragland.

*Trustees:* Chris Goeking and Randy Prellwitz

St. Michael's PCCW: Mary Prellwitz

St. Mary's PCCW: Deb Vanwesten

**Knights of Columbus:** Randy Prellwitz

**CCD Coordinator:** Georgann Friedrichsen

Parish collection data: February 13, 2022		
Adult	\$1,080.00	\$295.00
Loose Plate	146.00	
Online Giving	97.00	
Building		
Catholic Press	190.00	65.00
Cemetery	85.00	125.00
Debt Reduction		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,598.00</b>	<b>\$485.00</b>

## Debt Reduction

Loan Total as of January 2022

Joy of the Gospel Rebates

Debt Reduction Envelopes

**Due Dec. 31, 2022**

**AMOUNT TOWARDS DECEMBER 2022 PAYMENT**

## Loan Payment

\$34,720.69

\$4,386.07

\$1,205.00

**\$17,360.33**

**\$5,591.07**

## PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

It takes \$2,039.84 a week to run St. Michael's Parish.

Operation Cost per week \$2,039.84

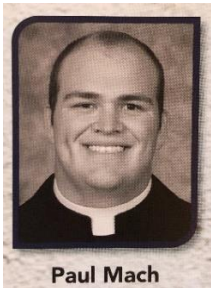
This Week's Collection \$1,513.00

**Shortage \$526.84**

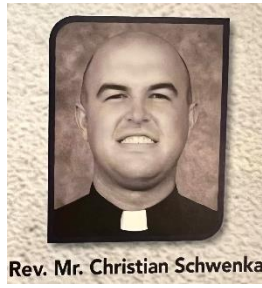
## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Jo Nease \* Mary Kay Bedlan \* Derek Lempka  
Jeanette Steele

## PRAY FOR VOCATIONS



Paul Mach



Rev. Mr. Christian Schwenka

**REV. MR. CHRISTIAN SCHWENKA** is the son of Dean & Mary Schwenka of Holy Family Parish in Heartwell, NE. He is in his 4th Year of Theology at Mt. St. Mary Seminary.

## Mass Intentions for Feb. 21st - 27th

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	9:00am	Paul Prellwitz+
Tuesday	8:00am	Jack & Jeanette Steele
Wednesday	Noon	Special Intention for Evelyn Birkel+ by Janna Tripe
Thursday	9:00am	Special Intention for Evelyn Birkel+ by John Pachta
Friday	No Mass	No Mass
Saturday	9:00am 5:30pm	Alexandria: Special Intention Patty Selig+
Sunday	8:00am 10:00am Noon	The United States of America People of the Parishes Spanish: Special Intention
St. Michael's Minister's Schedule for Feb. 26/27		
	5:30pm	10:00am
<b>Acolyte</b>	Bruce Busing	Randy Prellwitz
<b>Lector</b>	Ronn Brackle	Randy Prellwitz
<b>Server</b>	Aldo Ramos	
<b>Music</b>	Mary Prellwitz	LeAnne Krause

**ST MICHAEL'S** has a chapel. We have daily Mass in this chapel. It is located under the church. It is accessed through doors on the west end of the church.

## I SEND OUT MY HOMILIES

Daily via email. If you would like to receive them, please email me at

[frbirkl@hotmail.com](mailto:frbirkl@hotmail.com)

## **THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:**

Lent is fast approaching. Get ready!

### **PCCW-EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

Saturday, February 19th - Supper after Mass at the Center - sponsored by PCCW. Please join us for Soup & sandwiches - and fellowship after Mass on the 19th. You won't know what you are missing unless you come over!!!

### **PCCW MEETING** Monday Feb. 21st.

Rosary at 6:30pm and meeting at 7:00pm. All women in the parish are invited.

### **CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

Are in the back of church. If you do not see yours and need one contact the rectory at [st.michael.fairbury@gmail.com](mailto:st.michael.fairbury@gmail.com). If they are not picked up by March 1st they will be thrown away.

### **MASSES FOR RAIN & EMBER DAYS**

March 9, 11 & 12 are upcoming ember days. As of now all weekday Masses will be Masses for rain, that is the Mass itself will pray for rain. The Masses will still be offered for the listed intentions. Ember Days are special days when we pray for rain, safety & our Priests.

## **SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE**

### **{From the old days}**

THE SEASON of Septuagesima comprises the three weeks immediately preceding Lent. It forms one of the principal divisions of the liturgical year, and is itself divided into three parts, each part corresponding to a week:

the first is called Septuagesima;

the second, Sexagesima;

the third, Quinquagesima.

All three are named from their numerical reference to Lent, which, in the language of the Church, is called Quadragesima, that is, Forty, because the great feast of Easter is prepared for by the holy exercises of forty days. The words Quinquagesima, Sexagesima, and Septuagesima, tell us of the same

great solemnity as looming in the distance, and as being the great object towards which the Church would have us now begin to turn all our thoughts, and desires, and devotion.

Now, the feast of Easter must be prepared for by forty days of recollectedness (time spent looking inward) and penance. Those forty days are one of the principal seasons of the liturgical year, and one of the most powerful means employed by the Church for exciting in the hearts of her children the spirit of their Christian vocation. It is of the utmost importance that such a season of grace should produce its work in our souls—the renovation of the whole spiritual life. The Church, therefore, has instituted a preparation for the holy time of Lent. She gives us the three weeks of Septuagesima, during which she withdraws us, as much as may be, from the noisy distraction of the world, in order that our hearts may be more readily impressed by the solemn warning she is to give us at the commencement of Lent by marking our foreheads with ashes.

At the close of the sixth century, St. Gregory the Great alludes, in one of his homilies, to the fast of Lent being less than forty days, owing to the Sundays which come during that holy season. "There are," he says, "from this day (the first Sunday of Lent) to the joyous feast of Easter, six weeks, that is, forty-two days. As we do not fast on the six Sundays, there are but thirty-six fasting days ... which we offer to God as the tithe of our year."

Commentary from *The Liturgical Year* by Dom Prosper Guéranger (1805-1875)

### **OTHER LOCAL AREA NEWS:**

**ST. MARY'S SOUP SUPPER** In Wymore, 115 N 11th, on Sunday, February 20th from 4-7pm. Chili, vegetable and ham & bean soup with cornbread and desert for a free will offering.