

Our Parish

May 22, 2022
Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done
in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Our obligation is to do God's will, and not our own. We must remember this if the prayer that our Lord commanded us to say daily is to have any meaning on our lips. How unreasonable it is to pray that God's will be done, and then not promptly obey it when he calls us from this world! Instead, we struggle and resist like self-willed slaves and are brought into the Lord's presence with sorrow and lamentation, not freely consenting to our departure, but constrained by necessity. And yet we expect to be rewarded with heavenly honors by him to whom we come against our will! Why then do we pray for the kingdom of heaven to come if this earthly bondage pleases us? What is the point of praying so often for its early arrival if we should rather serve the devil here than reign with Christ?

The world hates Christians, so why give your love to it instead of following Christ, who loves you and has redeemed you? John is most urgent in his epistle when he tells us not to love the world by yielding to sensual desires. Never give your love to the world, he warns, or to anything in it. A man cannot love the Father and love the world at the same time. All that the world offers are the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and earthly ambition. The world and its allurements will pass away, but the man who has done the will of God shall live forever. Our part, my dear brothers, is to be single-minded, firm in faith, and steadfast in courage, ready for God's will, whatever it may be. Banish the fear of death and think of the eternal life that follows. That will show people that we really live our faith. **(Cont. on back)**



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

6th Sunday of Easter

May 22, 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

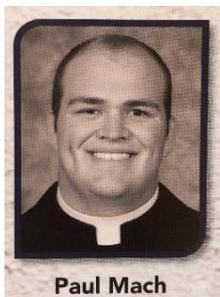
Parish collection data: May 15, 2022			Debt Reduction		Loan Payment	
Adult	\$695.00	\$295.00	Loan Total as of January 2022		\$34,720.69	
Loose Plate	87.00	5.00	Joy of the Gospel Rebates		\$4,386.07	
Online Giving	57.00		Debt Reduction Envelopes		\$6,287.00	
Cemetery	20.00		Due Dec. 31, 2022		\$17,360.33	
Holy Day Building	25.00	50.00	AMOUNT TOWARDS DECEMBER 2022 PAYMENT		\$10,673.07	
Debt Reduction	10.00		PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION			
Total			It takes \$2,039.84 a week to run St. Michael's Parish.			
			Operation Cost per week		\$2,039.84	
			This Week's Collection		\$864.00	
			Shortage		\$1,175.84	

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Jo Nease * Mary Kay Bedlan
Derek Lempka * Jeanette Steele

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

SR. MARY CECILIA from the Philippines has Professed at Holy Spirit Adoration (Pink) Sisters.



Paul Mach

PAUL MACH is the son of Keith & Mary Mach of St. Teresa Parish in Lincoln, NE but grew up here at St. Michael's Parish in Fairbury, NE. He is in his 1st Year of Theology at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia.

Mass Intentions for May 23rd - 29th

Monday	No Mass	NO Mass
Tuesday	9:00am	Jim Williams+
Wednesday	5:30pm Alexandria 7:00pm Fairbury	Carmen Juarez+
Thursday	7:00am	Pro Populo Erin Conradt+
Friday	9:00am	All Souls Intention for the Courtney & Selig Families
Saturday	9:00am 5:30pm	Alexandria: Special Intention Special Intention of Genevieve Cuba
Sunday	8:00am 10:00am Noon	Joe Hergott+ People of the Parishes Latin: Special Intention
St. Michael's Minister's Schedule for May 28/29		
	5:30pm	10:00am
Acolyte	Ronn Brackle	Randy Prellwitz
Lector	Ronn Brackle	Randy Prellwitz
Server	Aldo Ramos	
Music	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

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

Even in the midst of our darkest trials and dark places in our heart, God wants to be there with us and bring us light and healing and peace.

-Bret Henry

ONLINE GIVING LINK

UPDATE: If you are giving online, please use the updated link:

<https://www.osvhub.com/stmichaelsfairbury/funds>

ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday, May 24, 7PM in the Center.

COLLECTION FOR ST.

GIANNA'S HOME: The Knights of Columbus will be collecting bath soap, shampoos and moisturizers. These are the small items you get when staying in hotel/motels as you travel throughout the summer. Where possible ask front desk or housekeeping for extra explaining who they are for. A collection box will be placed in the church August 6/7. Thank you for your help.

Our Father Prayer Cont.

We ought never to forget, beloved, that we have renounced the world. We are living here now as aliens and only for a time. When the day of our homecoming puts an end to our exile, frees us from the bonds of the world, and restores us to paradise and to a kingdom, we should welcome it. What man, stationed in a foreign land, would not want to return to his own country as soon as possible? Well, we look upon paradise as our country, and a great crowd of our loved ones awaits us there, a countless throng of parents, brothers and children longs for us to join them. Assured though they are of their own salvation, they are still concerned about ours. What joy both for them and for us to see one another and embrace! O the delight of that heavenly kingdom where there is no fear of death! O the supreme and endless bliss of everlasting life!

There is the glorious band of apostles, there, the exultant assembly of prophets, there, the innumerable host of martyrs, crowned for their glorious victory in combat and in death. There, in triumph, are the virgins who subdued their passions by the strength of continence. There the merciful are rewarded, those who fulfilled the demands of justice by providing for the poor. In obedience to the Lord's command, they turned their earthly patrimony into heavenly treasure.

My dear brothers, let all our longing be to join them as soon as we may. May God see our desire, may Christ see this resolve that springs from faith, for he will give the rewards of his love more abundantly to those who have longed for him more fervently.

Such is our Christian life. By desiring heaven, we exercise the powers of our soul. Now this exercise will be effective only to the extent that we free ourselves from desires leading to infatuation with this world. Let me return to the example I have already used, of filling an empty container. God means to fill each of you with what is good; so cast out what is bad! If he wishes to fill you with honey and you are full of sour wine, where is the honey to go? The vessel must be emptied of its contents and then be cleansed. Yes, it must be cleansed even if you have to work hard and scour it. It must be made fit for the new thing, whatever it may be.

We may go on speaking figuratively of honey, gold or wine—but whatever we say we cannot express the reality we are to receive. The name of that reality is God. But who will claim that in that one syllable we utter the full expanse of our heart's desire? Therefore, whatever we say is necessarily less than the full truth. We must extend ourselves toward the measure of Christ so that when he comes, he may fill us with his presence. Then we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

-Saint Augustine

