



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 Easter

May 29, 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

Knights of Columbus: Randy Prellwitz

CCD Coordinator:

Georgann Friedrichsen

St. Mary's PCCW: Deb Vanwesten

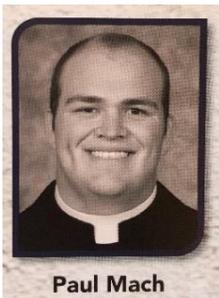
Parish collection data: May 22, 2022			Debt Reduction		Loan Payment	
Adult	\$849.77	\$425.00	Loan Total as of January 2022		\$34,720.69	
Loose Plate	109.00		Joy of the Gospel Rebates		\$4,386.07	
Online Giving	57.00		Debt Reduction Envelopes		\$6,287.00	
			Due Dec. 31, 2022		\$17,360.33	
			AMOUNT TOWARDS DECEMBER 2022 PAYMENT		\$10,673.07	
			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		\$1,015.77	
			Shortage		\$1,024.07	

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Jo Nease * Mary Kay Bedlan
Derek Lempka * Jeanette Steele

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

SR. XUAN SANG a Postulant and **SR. MARIA BERNADETTE PHUONG NGUYEN** a Jr. Professed Sister both from Vietnam with the Sisters of Mary, Queen of Mercy Religious Order.



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 30th - June 5th		
Monday	No Mass	NO Mass
Tuesday	No Mass	NO Mass
Wednesday	9:00am	Special intention of G.G.
Thursday	9:00am	All Souls intention of James & Ellen VanWesten
Friday	9:00am	Jim Williams+
Saturday	10:00am 5:30pm	Funeral Mass Fairbury: Madeline Kapke+ Evelyn Birkel+ by Bob & Marilyn Backle
Sunday	8:00am 10:00am No Noon	All Souls Intention of Robert & Donna Milius People of the Parishes No Spanish Mass
St. Michael's Minister's Schedule for June 4/5		
	5:30pm	10:00am
Acolyte	Luis Ramos	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 frbirkl@hotmail.com

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

This trial is refining you.

This test is maturing you. This valley is preparing you. This delay is disciplining you. And God is working for you!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH CLEANING

for June – Jill Stewart.

FUNERAL MASS at 10:00am on June 4th in Fairbury for Madeline Kapke+. No Mass in Alexandria at 9:00am on June 4th.

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

<https://www.osvhub.com/stmichael/fairbury/funds>

EMBER DAYS June 8th, 10th and 11th.

THANKS to Almighty God, and Bob and Judith Kluge. Years ago they saved a piece of parish history from destruction and have recently returned it to the parish so that it may be given its due honor. It is a document from the Holy See establishing the Stations of the Cross in our parish.

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.

SPIRITUAL CORNER

“A pastor of a small church would occasionally call on one gentleman to pray, and every time this one particular guy would pray, he would end with the strangest statement, “And, oh Lord, prop us up on our leaning side.”

Finally, the pastor pulled him aside, and he said, “I love the way you pray, but I don’t understand your little closing phrase. What are you talking about – prop us up on our leaning side?” He responded, “Well, Pastor, I’m a farmer. I live out on the farm and, you know, I live in the country. I’ve got an old barn, and it’s been there a long time. It’s been through a lot of weather, and a lot of storms, and a lot of bugs have eaten at it.”

He said, “I got to looking at it one day when I was riding on my tractor, and I noticed that it was leaning to one side. So I thought to myself, oh my goodness! The barn is leaning, and it’s a matter of time before the whole thing falls.

He continued, “So, you know what I did? I went and got some pine beams, and I propped it up on its leaning side.” He said, “It still leans, and probably always will. But I propped it up on its leaning side. And it’s not going to fall down because I propped it up on its leaning side. And I got to thinking about it.

When I was on the tractor, Pastor, and I was riding in the field, I thought about the kind of year I’ve had, and some of the storms I’ve been through, and some of the people that are bugging me, and eating away at my joy and eating away at my spirit. And I just got to thinking, you know, I’m still here! I’m still standing after all that stuff I’ve been through. The storms, and the howling winds – they couldn’t topple me. I’m still standing by the grace of God.” He concluded, “From time to time, I find myself leaning. Leaning toward my old desires, leaning toward anger, leaning toward becoming bitter or hateful at the people who are bugging me, or leaning toward going back to the old habits and the old life I used to have. And when I feel myself start to lean toward that tendency, I just remember that old barn, and I pray out loud - “Lord, thank you for propping me up on the leaning side.”

- Jentezen Franklin