



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

1st Sunday of Lent

February 26, 2023

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, and Mary Prellwitz.

Trustees: Chris Goeking and Randy Prellwitz

St. Michael's PCCW: Mary Prellwitz

St. Mary's PCCW: Deb Vanwesten

Knights of Columbus: Randy Prellwitz

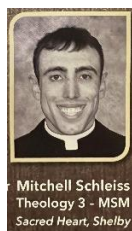
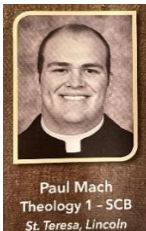
CCD Coordinator: Georgann Friedrichsen

Parish collection data: February 19, 2023			Debt Reduction		Loan Payment	
Adult	\$1,364.94	\$365.00	Loan Total as of Today		\$17,360.36	
Loose Plate	193.04		AMOUNT TOWARDS DECEMBER 2023 PAYMENT		\$4,060.39	
Online Giving	115.00		Due Dec. 31, 2023			
Children	30.00		AMOUNT TOWARDS DECEMBER 2023 PAYMENT		\$17,360.36	
Building			To be collected throughout the year		-\$4,060.39	
Register	50.00				\$13,299.97	
Cemetery						
Debt Reduction						
Total	\$1,752.98	\$365.00				
			PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION			
			Operation Cost per week		\$2,039.84	
			This Week's Collection		\$1,752.98	
			Shortage		\$286.86	

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Jo Nease * Mary Kay Bedlan
 Jeanette Steele * Helen Koll * Joe Hynek *
 Colleen Fyfe * Hillary Christ *
 Richard Krause

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS



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 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia.

MATTHEW DAVIS is the son of Joachim & Vicki Davis. He is in his second year at Our Lady of Guadalupe seminary in Denton.

MITCHELL SALCEDO SCHLEISS is the son of Michael & Maria Schleiss of Sacred Heart Parish in Shelby, NE. He is in his 3rd year of Theology at Mt. St. Mary seminary.

Mass Intentions for Feb. 27 th – Mar. 5 th		
Monday	No Mass	No Mass
Tuesday	10:00	Funeral of Mary Hauschel+
Wednesday	Noon	Special Intention of G.G.
Thursday	9:00am	Mike Steele
Friday	9:00am	All Souls Intention of Robert & Donna Milius
Saturday	9:00am 5:30pm	Special intention People of the Parishes
Sunday	8:00am 10:00am Noon	Special Intention Deceased members of the Charles & Fern Votipka family Noon Spanish Mass
St. Michael's Minister's Schedule for Mar 4/5		
	5:30pm	10:00am
Acolyte	Bruce Busing	Randy Prellwitz
Lector	Ronn Brackle	Randy Prellwitz
Music	Mary Prellwitz	LeAnne Krause
St. Mary's Church Cleaning for March		

ST MICHAEL'S has a daily Mass chapel. It is accessed through doors on the west end of the church.

STATIONS FRIDAY'S AT 5:00PM.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"The Lord manifests Himself to those who stop for some time in peace and humility of heart. If you look in murky and turbulent waters, you cannot see the reflection of your face. If you want to see the face of Christ, stop and collect your thoughts in silence, and close the door of your soul to the noise of external things."

—St. Anthony of Padua

FUNERAL OF MARY HAUSCHEL Tuesday at 10:00am.

WE NEED FOUR VOLUNTEERS

from each parish for parish council.

Please contact Father Birkel

LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR THE DIOCESE OF LINCOLN FOR 2023

* Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence.

Fasting means eating only one full meal with two smaller meals, which together do not equal the full meal. No snacking or eating between meals is allowed. Fasting obliges all Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59. Abstinence means eating no meat, and no soup or gravy made from meat. Abstinence obliges all Catholics over the age of 14. Sickness, hard manual labor, pregnancy, etc. automatically excuse a person from these obligations. Nevertheless, it should be pointed out that these are serious obligations. In cases of doubt or question, the priest who hears a person's confession should be consulted.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS St. Michael Fairbury fish fries from 5:30pm - 7:00pm.

March 3, March 17, March 31

WASHINGTON KS Saint Augustine fish fries from 5:30pm - 7:00pm:

February 24, March 10, March 24

SPIRITUAL CORNER

Exorcist: The Demonic Hour

James complained of demonic attacks. One fact especially caught my attention. I asked, "What time do they occur?" He responded, "3am." I thought, "Ahhh, the demonic hour."

To discern if someone is possessed, we look for the well-known major signs such as occult knowledge, superhuman strength, knowledge of unknown languages, and aversion to the sacred. But many times these classic signs do not appear until much later. In the beginning, we are attuned to more subtle signs that typically accompany the possessed, such as the characteristics of the alleged demonic attacks.

Satan hates Jesus. The Evil One mocks Jesus at every turn, inverting sacred signs and truths. Jesus died on the cross at 3pm. Jesus called it, "My hour." In the Satanic inversion,

Satan claims 3am as his hour. We find some of the most intense Satanic attacks on the possessed occur at that time. It is likely that, at 3am, he is at his greatest strength.

Carey, too, was possessed. She also described intense demonic attacks at 3am. As the lengthy process of her exorcism continued, she was losing strength and we feared she would not be able to hold up. We were more than concerned. The demons were pummeling her at 3am. So, we decided to start praying with her at 2:30am.

In addition to giving her some relief, I wanted to attack the demons at their strength. They previously controlled the night. Now, with these night sessions, we were on the offensive. For some weeks, the Team gathered at 2:30am. Carey said, "It did fend the demons off a little bit and gave me some peaceful nights after the 3am hour." At this stage, her getting some sleep was critical.

Eventually, the demons realized that we would not stop praying at 2:30am. So, they started attacking her at 1am. I was surprised it took them so long to adjust. I think they were very surprised we would wake in the middle of the night to help this young woman. They probably figured we would eventually give up; but we did not. In their narcissistic world, they cannot comprehend the idea of charity and self-giving. And since the demons started attacking her at 1am, we then began to gather at 12:30am (the Team was happy to pray earlier!). So, the cat and mouse tactics continued. Happily, Carey eventually made it to the end and is now liberated.

I see many signs of the Satanic inversion in our world today, especially in people's thinking, although often not recognized. For example, Satanists claim to offer freedom from "tyrannical religious authority," but it is Satan who enslaves. They claim to promote human dignity and fulfillment, but Satan is the destroyer of humanity. Some witches claim that their spells are really the same as Christian prayers, but the only result of any magic spell is a curse. In Jesus is true freedom and the fullness of human potential. In true Christianity, we find real grace and wonderful blessings.

Be on guard against Satanic inversions. Whenever you hear one, say a simple prayer: "May the light of the Holy Spirit come upon us all and reveal Him who is the Truth."

NEEDING TO GO ON A RETREAT SOON? Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly has several retreats to renew you in your relationship with God. Join us on March 10-12 "In the Presence of the Lord" with Fr. Loras Grell. Read more and register at www.goodcounselretreat.org, email office@goodcounselretreat.org or call 402-786-2705.