



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 3:15 PM to 3:45 PM

Holy Family Sunday

December 31, 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: Ritchie Burkhart Trustees: Bob VanWesten and Bob Bachle

St. Michael's Parish Council, LeAnn Krause, and Mary Prellwitz. Georgann Friedrichsen, Daryl Banahan, Gina Gifford Trustees: Chris Goeking and Randy Prellwitz

St. Michael's PCCW: Vickie Banahan

St. Mary's PCCW: Deb Vanwesten

CCD Coordinator: Georgann Friedrichsen

Knights of Columbus: Randy Prellwitz

Parish collection data: Dec. 24/25, 2023		
Adult	\$1,305.00	\$555.00
Loose Plate	536.00	5.00
Online Giving	115.00	
Children	72.00	
Cemetery	10.00	
Building/Flowers	10.00/20.00	
Donation	1,700.00	350.00
Holy Day	1,425.00	
Debt Reduction	1,150.00	
Total	\$6,343.00	\$910.00

Debt Reduction	Loan Payment
Loan Total as of Today	\$17,360.36
AMOUNT TOWARDS DECEMBER 2023 PAYMENT	\$15,235.39
Due Dec. 31, 2023	
AMOUNT TOWARDS DECEMBER 2023 PAYMENT	\$17,360.36
<i>To be collected throughout the year</i>	-\$15,235.39
	\$2,124.97
PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Operation Cost per week	\$2,039.84
This Week's Collection	\$5,183.00
Overage	\$3,143.16

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS



PAUL MACH is the son of Keith & Mary Mach of St. Teresa Parish in Lincoln, NE. He is in second Theology at St. Charles Borromeo seminary in Philadelphia.

MATTHEW DAVIS is the son of Joachim & Vicki Davis. He is in his third year (of 7) at Our Lady of Guadalupe seminary in Denton.

THOMAS MATYA is the son of John & Lisa Matya of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Omaha.

TRENT MINES is the son of William & Mary Mines of Cathedral of the Risen Christ Parish in Lincoln, NE. He is in second Theology at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

SR. RITA MARIE OF THE HOLY TRINITY of Ft. Wayne, IN is a Novice with the Sisters of the Carmel of Jesus Mary and Joseph.

Mass Intentions for Jan 1st - 7th		
Monday	<i>No Mass</i>	<i>No Mass</i>
Tuesday	<i>No Mass</i>	<i>No Mass</i>
Wednesday	Noon	Deceased members of the Charles & Fern Votipka family
Thursday	9:00am	Cedarwood: All Souls Intention for Kathleen Selig
Friday	9:00am	Frank Gaydusek+
Saturday	4:00pm	For all the people on Our Tree of Memories
Sunday	8:00am	Mass for the liberation of those in most need of a prayers in purgatory
	10:00am	For the people of the parishes
	<i>Noon</i>	Spanish Mass
	4:00pm	Pro Populo (Holy Day)
St. Mary's Church Cleaning for January Donna Rut		

We still need \$2,124.97
For Debt Reduction

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
LINDA LOWE * JERRY BRANDENBURG

Send requests to
St.michael.fairbury@gmail.com



"Give Me your sins," Jesus explained,
"in order that I may pardon them all."

The generosity which Jerome had shown Christ on His Birthday was more than repaid by the loving rapture he experienced upon hearing those merciful words.

"O Divine Infant," said Jerome,
"You make me weep for joy!"

JANUARY 1st, because it falls on a Monday, is not a day of obligation this year. Mass is at 4:00pm @ St Michaels on Sunday afternoon.

PCCW NEWS: The PCCW will meet on Wednesday, January 3rd at 4:00 p.m. This is the planning meeting for the year - bring yourself and your ideas!!!! All women invited to attend.

THANK YOU TO Dave Banahan & Robert James who donated dirt & did landscaping around the school!!!

HALL RENTAL LIABILITY INSURANCE \$95 for non-parishioners, but no charge for parishioners. Parishioners still need to get the coverage but there is no charge.

NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK Feb. 7-14 and World Marriage Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024 is fast approaching. <https://www.foryourmarriage.org/celebrate-national-marriage-week/>

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER As we celebrate Holy Family Sunday, let us remember that God's love for us is reflected in the love for each other in our family. February 9-11 in Lincoln, NE. For questions, or to find out more about a Virtual Encounter Weekend, feel free to contact: Brenda & Gary Granger: 402-370-5839. Space is limited, so reserve your weekend early. For more information please visit www.wwme.org.

FAIRBURY RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Tuesday, January 9th from 11:30am-5:15pm at the Fairbury Elks Lodge - 525 G St. For appointment call 402-300-1767.

A PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT TO JESUS

The following is an incident that occurred one Christmas, concerning the great Saint Jerome. He was the man who translated the Holy Bible from it's original languages into the universal Latin. This holy man, who had a great love for God, actually died, in 420, in the blessed town where his God had been born - Bethlehem. As he was on this day meditating about the first Christmas, Saint Jerome received a glorious apparition of the Divine Infant.

"Jerome," Jesus asked him, "what are you going to give Me for My Birthday?"

"Divine Infant," Jerome replied,
"I give You my heart."

"That is very good," said the Holy Child,
"but give Me something else."

Jerome answered, "I give You my prayers and all my heart's affections."

"That also is good, but give Me something else."

His Sacred Heart was yearning for still more.

"I give You," the Saint, wishing to leave nothing behind, offered,

"all that I have and all that I possess."

"Very good." The smile radiating from His Holy Face showed that He was pleased. There is, however, nothing which can compare with the Divine Love and Generosity of God.

"But," the Boy continued, "I desire that you give Me still something more."

"But, Divine Infant," Jerome cried, "I have nothing, what do You desire me to give You?"

"Jerome," said Jesus eagerly,
"give Me your sins!"

The Saint was shocked. "But," he asked,
"what would You do with them?"