



# St. Michael's & St. Mary's

**FR. JOHN B. BIRKEL, PASTOR**  
**CELL PHONE: (308) 991-6893**  
**OFFICE PHONE 402-729-2058**  
**EMAIL: frjohn@stmichaelsfairbury.org**

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

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

**St. Michael's Prayer Chain** Carmen Juarez: 729-3623

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 17/18, 2016

**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 729-2058.

**St. Mary's Parish Council:** Duane Bartek, Ritchie Burkhart, Peggy Niederklein, Rhonda Burkhart and Donna Rut Trustees: Bob VanWesten and Bob Bachle

**St. Mary's PCCW:** Deb Vanwesten

**St. Michael's Parish Council:** Mary Mach, Eddie Lytle, Devin Lovgren, Doug Kapke, LeAnn Krause, Dave Panko, Deb Jones, Megan Grant Trustees: Keith Mach and Randy Prellwitz

**St. Michael's PCCW:** Linda McMurphy

**Knights of Columbus:** Dan Arner

**CCD Coordinator:** Beth Hansmire

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

## Ministers' Schedules for December 24/25, 2016

	4:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:00 AM
<b>Acolyte</b>	Ronn Brackle	Bob VanWesten	Randy Prellwitz
<b>Lector</b>	Keith Mach	Rhonda Burkhart	Devin Lovgren
<b>Server</b>	Brock Beed		Paul Mach
<b>Server</b>	Connor Gerths		Devin Wannamaker
<b>Music</b>	Mary Prellwitz	Lorrie Hofstetter	LeAnn Krause
<b>Gifts/Greeters</b>	Jason & Megan Grant	Mark & Peggy Niederklein	Ronda Cary
<b>Collection</b>	Doug Kapke / Devin Lovgren		
<b>Church Cleaning for December – Peggy Niederklein</b>			

## Mass intentions for the week of December 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>

<b>Monday</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>St. Michael's</b>	<b>Harry &amp; Marie DeWispelaire+</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>			No Mass
<b>Wednesday</b>	12:10 PM	St. Michael's	Special Intention
<b>Thursday</b>	5:30PM	St. Michael's	Lindsey Rickstrew+
<b>Friday</b>	12:10 PM	St. Michael's	Special Intention
<b>Saturday</b>	<b><u>4:00 PM</u></b>	<b><u>St. Michael's</u></b>	<b><u>Special Intention</u></b>
<b>Sunday</b>	8:00 AM	St. Mary's	Albert Fink+
<b>Sunday</b>	10:00 AM	St. Michael's	People of the Parishes

*If you or someone you know would like our parish family to join you in prayer for their special needs, please contact the parish office.*

### **Please pray for:**

Randy Wilhelm  
Vonia Scheer  
Mary Ann Muller

Frank Kosmacek  
Denny Kofler  
Steve Graff

Eddie Lytle  
Tom Huber

- **BULLETIN:** If you have news for the bulletin, please call the Rectory 729-2058 or email [st.michael.fairbury@gmail.com](mailto:st.michael.fairbury@gmail.com). Deadline for additions - Thursday by 10:00 AM.
- **ADOPT A PRIEST:** Our Deanery is taking part in the "Adopt a Priest" program. St. Michael's has adopted **Fr. Leo Seiker**; please keep him in your prayers.

# Parish News & Upcoming Events

## Parish collection data:

	<u>12/11/16</u>	<u>St. Michael's</u>	<u>St. Mary's</u>
<b><u>Thought of the Week:</u></b> Invite Jesus into your darkest place & He will bring light.	Adult	\$2,150.00	\$455.00
	Plate	98.00	17.00
	Debt Reduction	80.00	
	Cloistered Sisters	2.00	
	Children	13.00	
	Holy Day	100.00	
	Building Fund	50.00	
	<b>Total</b>	\$2,493.00	\$472.00

## **SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK:**

Douglas Allen Daro from St. Mary's in David City, NE is in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Theology at Mount St. Mary's Seminary.

**Joint PCCW / K of C** supper will be Tuesday December 20<sup>th</sup> in the center at 6:00pm, PCCW meeting to follow.

## **Advent Confessions:**

Sunday December 18 St Joseph in Beatrice 3:00pm-4:30PM.

Sunday December 18 St Michael's in Fairbury 7:00pm-7:30PM.

Tuesday December 20 Sacred Heart in Hebron 7:00pm-7:30PM.

(Several Priests will be hearing Confessions).

**Christmas falls** on a Sunday this year. The schedule for Masses:

Saturday **4:00PM** at St Michael's;

*Sunday 8:00AM at St Mary's & ;*

Sunday 10:00AM at St Michael's.

Confessions Saturday 2:00PM-3:00PM.

**The obligation to attend** Sunday Mass is a strict obligation which does not bind strictly. I.e. if one is truly leery of venturing out due to the weather, then stay home. Similarly if one is ill, stay home. There is no sin.

**Steve Graff** is scheduled to be released January 3<sup>rd</sup>, to his Brother's home. A few weeks later, he plans to return to his own home. If you want to visit he is in Madonna at the following address: St. Jane DeChantal, Room 300, 2200 S 52nd St., Lincoln NE 68506.

**Marian antiphons** classically correspond to the Liturgical season, so during Easter we use the Regina Coeli. The antiphon for Advent is one many do not know, Alma Redemptoris Mater;

Loving Mother of the Redeemer,  
Gate of heaven, star of the sea,  
Assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again.  
To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator,  
Yet remained a virgin after as before.  
You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting,  
Have pity on us poor sinners.

**Door Prize Winners** from the Baazar:

Janice Bell-Stationary Set with Stagecoach Gift Card

Marci-Amazing Grace Wooden Sign

Cheryl Lofing-Crystal Nativity

Bonna Richards-Nebraska Door Hanger

Linda Hermsmeier-Coffee Mug, Towel, Utensil Set

**Thank you to everyone** that helped us make the 2016 Christmas Bazaar & Craft Fair a HUGE success. The Baazaar would not have been possible without all of the hard work and dedication from the Bazaar Committee, volunteers, and donations. We also want to thank everyone for taking the time to attend our event and hope that it was a great opportunity to shop local and gather with friends. The Bazaar welcomed in over 150 people to the event. We were also delighted to provide interviews and news broadcasting for News Channel Nebraska 21 and Fairbury News Now. We anticipate our event to continue to grow and look forward to future events planned.

God Bless and Happy Holidays!

Raven Gerths

**Mass in Honor** of the Holy Innocents will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 28th, reading of names will begin at 6:30 p.m. and Mass will be at 7:00 p.m. at John XXIII Diocesan Center Chapel, 3700 Sheridan Blvd., Lincoln. Those who have lost a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death or abortion are invited to attend this special Memorial Mass. If you would like your child's name to be remembered & placed on the banner for this year, please call the Family Life Office at 473-0620 before 5:00 p.m. on Dec. 19th. If you placed your child's name previously, it will remain on the list.