

St. Michael's & St. Mary's

FR. JOHN B. BIRKEL, PASTOR

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Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 21, 2015



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. Michael's	PO Box 406, Fairbury, NE 68352	Phone: 729-2058
St. Mary's	5th & Amanda Streets, Alexandria, NE	
St. Michael's Prayer Chain	Carmen Juarez: 729-3623	
St. Michael's/St. Mary's Secretary	Carolyn Osborne: 729-5387	Mobile: 300-0148

St. Mary's Parish Council: Peggy Niederklein, Rhonda Burkhart, Donna Rut, Daryl Anderson and Trish Endorf **Trustees:** Bob VanWesten and Bob Bachle

St. Mary's PCCW: Deb Vanwesten

St. Michael's Parish Council: Doug Kapke, LeAnn Krause, Dave Panko, Dave Banahan, Bruce Busing, Chad Mans, Matt Umland **Trustees:** Keith Mach and Randy Prellwitz

St. Michael's PCCW: Lorraine Borch

Knights of Columbus: Dan Arner

CCD Coordinator:

Parish News & Upcoming Events

- **BULLETIN:** If you have news for the bulletin, please call the Rectory 729-2058 or contact Carolyn 729-5387 or email carolyn@stmichaelsfairbury.org News must be in Thursday by 10:00 AM to be in the week's bulletin.
- **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.
- **SISTERS OF THE WEEK:** Please keep our Sisters of the week, **Sr. Faustina Maria of Jesus and Sr. Clare of Gethsemane** in your prayers.

Ministers' Schedules for Next Weekend

	5:30 PM	8:00 AM	10:00 AM
Acolyte	James Huber	Jim VanWesten	Steve Graff
Lector	Randy Prellwitz	Bob Bachle	Charlie Barringer
Server	Connor Gerth		RJ Suey
Server	Ryan Umland		Braden Suey
Organ/Piano	Allen Scheer	Lorrie Hofstetter	Mary Mach
Gifts/Greeters		Mike Hofstetter Family	
Collection	LeAnn Krause & Dave Panko		

Our Offering to God Last Weekend		Adult	Plate	Children
	St. Michael's	\$2170.00	\$68.00	\$.00
	St. Mary's	\$255.00	\$22.50	
	St. Michael's Debt	Last Week	Total	
		\$0.00	\$4225.00	

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	June 22	11:00 AM	St. Michael's	Funeral Mass for Catharine Nutsch+
Tuesday	June 23	12:10 PM	St. Michael's	John & Helen Cuba+
Wednesday	June 24	12:10 PM	St. Michael's	Alfonso Juarez+
Thursday	June 25	NO MASS	St. Michael's	NO MASS
Friday	June 26	12:10 PM	St. Michael's	Bill & Arlene Wagner+
Saturday	June 27	5:30 PM	St. Michael's	Leslie & Mary Niaman+
Sunday	June 28	8:00 AM	St. Mary's	All Souls Day Intentions of John & Donna Rut
Sunday	June 28	10:00 AM	St. Michael's	The People of the Parishes

Confessions	St. Michael's	Saturday	4:45 PM to 5:15 PM
	St. Mary's	Sunday	7:45 AM

Daily Mass: Please check Mass schedule carefully for Mass times this week!!!

Please pray for: Betty (Morgan) Brackle, Bob Seigel, Iola Busing, Rose O'Keefe, Vonja Scheer, Lorraine Callison, Doug Wiedel, Leona Gaydusek, Norma Bernasek, Jim Cortney, Rozella Prellwitz, Zachary Rowe, Noelle Salazar, Bernie Boerner, Brad Eveleth, Kathy Blobaum, Bob McCord, Ed Lytle, Rita Stone, Graysen Snyder, Brandi Warnke, Darren Martinez, Marie Kosmacek, Military Personnel, all the unborn children & their parents, pro-life legislation, and anyone else who maybe ailing. *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.*

NEW ITEMS



We hold in prayer those who have died:

Kevin Nutsch and Catharine Nutsch . May they know the joy of God's kingdom. "Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them.

- **Happy Father's Day!** We would like to wish our Dad's a Blessed and Happy Father's Day.



- **Peters Pence Collection:** Next week our diocese will take up the Peter's Pence Collection, which provides the Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression and disasters. Join our Holy Father as a witness of charity to those who are suffering. Envelopes are attached to this week's bulletin.

- **Totus Tuus:** We would like to thank Deborah Jones and Linda Hermsmeier for providing a meal for the Totus Tuus teachers last week. THANK YOU!

- **First Friday Adoration in July:** First Friday Adoration will be held on **Thursday, July 2**, in anticipation of First Friday. The Knights are asking for parish participation and support. Please sign-up for July in the back of the Church. Please commit to at least one hour (if not more). Each hour has two time lots, but there is no limit to the number of people who may be present.



- **Endow in the Lincoln Diocese:** Endow (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women) is an educational apostolate created for the "woman in the pew." The Endow ministry brings women of all ages together for prayer, study, and friendship. Grab your sister, mother, or another friend and plan to join us for one (or more!) of these great events. **Ladies Night Out**-Friday, July 17th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, North Platte, NE. **Facilitator Training**-Saturday, July 18, 9-a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, McCook, NE. **Information Night**-Sunday, July 19th at 6:00 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall, Grand Island. For more information, see the flyer on the bulletin board.

- **PCCW Brunch:** The PCCW will be sponsoring their monthly brunch, Sunday, June 28th following the Sunday Mass in the parish center. Diane Stone, Sue Rine, Mary McCord and Sherrie Morehead are in charge of the brunch. A free will donation will be taken up.
- **Miniature Quilt Auction:** Sunday, August 23rd at 4-H building at Jefferson County Fairgrounds. 2:00 p.m. Quilt Preview & Treats; 2:30 p.m. Auction. Free Admission.
- **Make a Pilgrimage to visit a Religious Community** in celebrations of the Year for Consecrated Life: Sunday, June 28, 9 am Mass and reception at School Sisters of Christ the King, Villa Regina, 4100 SW 56th St., Lincoln, NE; July 8-16, Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 7 pm weekday Masses at Carmelite Sisters at Carmel of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, 9300 Agnew Rd, Valparaiso; Sunday, July 12 3-4 pm Open House & Vespers at School Sisters of Christ the Kings at Villa Regina, 4100 SW 56th St., Lincoln.
- **Working on Ministries Schedule:** We are working on the new ministries schedule for the acolytes, lectors, keyboardist, and servers, for the month of July, August and September. If you have any request (gone on vacation, softball/baseball games, etc.) please call Carolyn at the parish office (729-2058), email her at carolyn@stmichaelsfairbury.org or leave a note in the collection marked “ministries”. Please have your request in by June 22nd.
- **Summer Food Service Program:** Fairbury Public Schools is providing a “Summer Lunch Program” in order to make sure that no children in the Fairbury School District goes hungry. The Program is available to any child ages 1-18 regardless of income or enrollment status. **Every child receives a free meal.** Food will be served at Central Elementary from June 1-July 31 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **Activity Time 11:00-11:30 a.m.** Dress Code: Shoes and Shirts are required. Any questions, please call Jane Rhine at 402-729-6119.
- **Please note:** Summer vacation continues but there is never a vacation from God. Make sure to include Him in you travel plans. Bills still need to be paid, however, please remember to consistently contribute your parish offering during the summer months.



- **Annual Charity and Stewardship (DDP) Appeal:** Thank you for your generosity and your support of the Charity and Stewardship (DDP) Appeal. St. Michael's goal is \$11,246.00. *St. Michael's has pledged \$9825.00.* St. Mary's goal is \$2,176.00. *St. Mary's has pledged \$2020.00.*
- **Thought of the Week:** Be stewards in our prayer and worship.
- **St. Mary's Cemetery Fund:** The cemetery fund for St. Mary's Cemetery is in need of some new funds as the summer growing season draws near as does the need to pay for the mowing. If you would like to replenish the fund, please put your donations in your church support envelope that is marked "Cemetery Fund". Cemeteries require funds for maintenance purposes. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.
- **June Church Cleaning for St. Mary's:** Jill Stewart

Totus Tuus 2015



Check the bulletin board for more pictures from Totus Tuus.

Catholic Manhood: Like A Good Pizza

Being a Catholic man is like eating a pizza. It's possible to list the ingredients — the crust, the sauce, the toppings and so on — but the taste is a blend. One item may dominate a bite (more pepperoni than green pepper, more mushroom than garlic), but it's seldom a single flavor.

In the same way, while it's possible to list the areas of a Catholic man's life, at most times there is a blending there, too. One relationship spills over into another, flavors another. A lesson learned in one, a grace received in one, is applied — or ignored — in another.

But in each relationship there is the potential for holiness. There are opportunities for the Catholic man to discover and do God's will.

As son

What does it mean for a Catholic man to be an adult son? It's reaching an age of maturity — of wisdom that comes from living — to give thanks for his parents and to attempt to repay them for their many gifts and sacrifices. And, in some cases, to accept and, if necessary, to rise above their mistakes or shortcomings.

This is a fluid relationship. At times, an adult son wants the same feeling of comfort and safety that he sought as a child. At others, he prefers to stand proudly alone so his parents can clearly see what he has accomplished. Their opinion, their admiration, still mean a great deal to him.

He realizes how important it has been to hear "I love you" as he comes to understand how it is equally important for him to say it — to say it now, because time is passing more and more quickly.

Often, just as his parents taught him about life as he was growing up, they begin to teach him about death as they grow frail. They help him see beyond the grave to what lies ahead: eternity with an all-loving God.

That new — or clearer — vision encourages him to "parent" his parents in their final years and to strengthen the bonds between himself and his siblings. It helps him sort out what is important and what is chaff in his own life.

As husband

It wouldn't be surprising to learn that the typical husband has no recollection of what colors the flowers were at his wedding. But that's all right, because a Catholic husband is a co-celebrant — along with his wife — not in the sacrament of "wedding," but in the sacrament of marriage.

A wedding and reception last a few hours. A marriage is for life.

Modern society warns couples to "Watch out! Don't fall into the trap of giving more than you get."

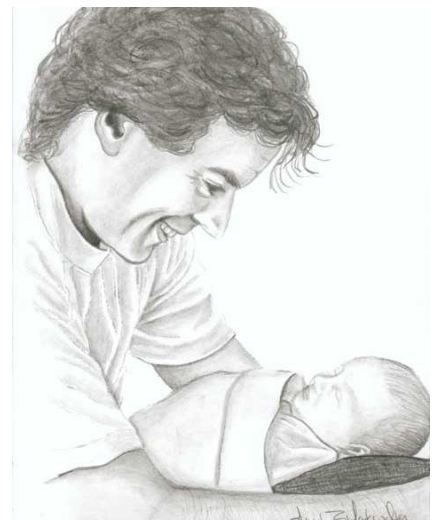
The Church teaches that marriage is for giving, that it is for openness to love and to life.

That means a Catholic husband doesn't point a finger and say, "This is mine. This is yours." He opens his arms wide and says, "This is ours. What I have is ours. What I am is ours. What will come is ours."

What comes is the fulfillment of the promises made during the wedding ceremony. What comes are good times and bad, sickness and health. What comes is a love that remains despite those bad times, despite that sickness. What comes is a love that — like "gold tested in a fire" — can grow stronger and more precious because of those obstacles.

As the years go by, a Catholic man realizes his wife knows him better than anyone else ever has, has seen him at his absolute worst, and still loves him, believes in him and wants only the best for him.

Being a partner in marriage like that makes it easier for him to imagine, to believe in, God's great love for him.



As father

It's difficult to think of God, to pray to God, the same way after becoming a father. Even the word — the title — itself is heavy with meaning

A Catholic man turns his heart and mind to his Creator and calls Him Father. And now there are other human beings who use the same term to refer to him, to call to him, to ask for his help.

Fatherhood teaches a Catholic man about sacrifice in a way that marriage alone can't. Giving up and going without are inseparable from being a dad. Sometimes they're what make it so difficult to be a father. Other times they're what makes it such a rich blessing.

It seems safe to say that there is no task, no obligation, no calling that a Catholic man has that can make him feel so ill-prepared, so inadequate, so dependent on God's help to have any hope of . . . if not meeting with booming success, at least surviving without causing too much damage to those he loves.

And all the while, a Catholic dad knows his kids are watching. They may not always be listening to what he says, but they never fail to see what he does. And so if he wants his sons and daughters to be people of prayer, he must be a man of prayer. If he wants them to make the Mass a central part of their lives, he must make it a central part of his life.

It's a seemingly endless list: To show love; to admit mistakes; to ask forgiveness; to value honesty; to work hard; to laugh easily. . . .

There are times when he does these things only because he wants his children to do them. But even so, he can't help but become better at doing them, and those acts, those beliefs, can't help but become more ingrained in who he is.

As worker

Part of being a Catholic man is not just answering the call to married, single or religious life; it's answering what Mother Teresa has referred to as "the call within the call."

As a married man . . . as a single man . . . as a priest . . . a Catholic man needs to listen, to pray, to test the waters, to take "leaps of faith" to discover that unique role God has prepared for him, and the unique role for which God has prepared him.

In whatever profession, craft or trade he finds himself, a Catholic man has a set of criteria to measure success that often differs from those around him.

The definition of success Christ taught (Mt 25:14-46), the one the Church teaches, doesn't have to do with income, with fame or with power. The one who dies with the most toys doesn't win.

The truly successful man is the one who has taken the talent, that gift, however large or small it may be that God has given him, and has used it to the best of his ability.

The truly successful man is the one who has fed Jesus — the "least" among us — when He was hungry, who helped Him find shelter when He was homeless, took care of Him when He was sick, visited Him when He was in prison.

The truly successful man serves Christ by serving others, at home, at work and in the community.

Summation

There are other categories, of course, a great jumble of categories: the Catholic man as friend, as citizen, as grandparent, as parishioner. And so on.

Through the sacraments, through prayer, through Scripture, through the example of the holy men and women we call saints, through tradition, the Church is present in that great jumble.

God is present there. Always. Permeating — saturating — a Catholic man's life like the smell of incense fills a church when . . . No.

Like the smell of freshly baked pizza fills a family kitchen. A room — the heart of any home — crowded with people. Crowded with love. Crowded with God's blessings. *by Bill Dodds*

