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

OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS December 31st 2016 / January 1st 2017

***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

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| **Ministers' Schedules for January 7/8, 2017** |
|  | **5:30 PM** | **8:00 AM** | **10:00 AM** |
| **Acolyte** | Bruce Busing | Bob VanWesten | Randy Prellwitz |
| **Lector** | Keith Mach | Scott DeWald | Lorraine Borch  |
| **Server** | Connor Gerths |  | Devin Wannamaker |
| **Server** | Paul Mach  |  | Braden Suey |
| **Music** | Mary Mach | Lorrie Hofstetter | Donna Winslow  |
| **Gifts/Greeters** | Dianna Armstrong  | Doris DeWald / Brent Bachle | Ron & Shana Rickstrew  |
| **Collection** | Megan Grant / Deb Jones  |
| **Church Cleaning for January –** Donna Rut |

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| **Mass intentions for the week of January 1 / 8**  |
| ***Monday*** |  |  | No Mass |
| ***Tuesday*** |  |  | No Mass  |
| ***Wednesday*** | 12:10 PM | St. Michael’s | Special Intention  |
| ***Thursday*** | 5:30PM  | St. Michael’s  | Special Intention |
| ***Friday*** |  12:10 PM | St. Michael’s | Luke Serensits+ |
| ***Saturday*** | 5:30 PM | St. Michael’s | John Bernasek+ |
| ***Sunday*** | 8:00 AM | St. Mary’s | People of the Parishes |
| ***Sunday*** | 10:00 AM | St. Michael’s | Eleanor & Geoge Scheaffer+ |

*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:**

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| Randy Wilhelm | Frank Kosmacek | Eddie Lytle |
| Vonia Scheer | Steve Graff | Tom Huber |
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* **BULLETIN:** If you have news for the bulletin, please call the Rectory 729-2058 or email 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

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

 **Parish collection data**:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **12/25/16** | ***St. Michael’s*** | ***St. Mary’s*** |
| Adult | $3,390.00 | $465.00 |
| Plate | 314.00 | 40.00 |
| Debt Reduction | 250.00 |  |
| Cemetery |  |  |
| Children | 10.00 |  |
| Holy Day |  |  |
| Building Fund |  |  |
| ***Total*** | $3,964.00 | $505.00 |

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**hought of the Week:** We may not know what the New Year holds, but we know Who holds the New Year

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**EMINARIAN OF THE WEEK**: Douglas Allen Daro from St. Mary’s in David City, NE is in his 3rd year of Theology at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary.

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**hank you** to all who have given me such generous gifts, wonderful cards, and thoughtful prayers for Christmas! I am very grateful and humbled by your gifts. Father John Birkel

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**he Diocese of Lincoln** requires that its employees and volunteers report any allegations of abuse or neglect of a minor or elder connected with church related activity to law enforcement, consistent with the requirements of Nebraska law. If anyone had information that a minor or elder is being or has been subjected to abuse or neglect please report it immediately to local law enforcement or to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services toll-free number 1-800-652-1999, and also to any Parish Pastor, School Administrator, Teacher, or to any Diocesan official at the Catholic Chancery (402) 488-0921, so that immediate steps may be taken for the protection of the minor or elder.

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**he 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.

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**he St. Michael's Knights of Columbus** Council #4434 will be having their pancake feed on January 8th following the 10:00am Mass. It will be held in the parish center. There will be pancakes, sausages, biscuits and gravy. It is a free will donation.

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**he St. Michael's Knights of Columbus** Council #4434 will meet on Monday January 9th at 7:00pm in the parish center. Rosary will be at 6:30 prior to the meeting.

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**lease consider** joining us in Lincoln January 14, 2017 at 9:00a.m. for the Pro-Life Mass at St. Mary's (14th & K). The Nebraska Walk for Life will immediately follow Mass at 10:00a.m. at the State Capitol (North Side). After the walk, Rebekah Buell will share her story at the UNL Student Union.

Rebekah began taking pills for a chemical abortion, but then realized she was making a mistake. She contacted a pro-life doctor and together, well, I'll let Rebekah tell the rest of the story.

If you've never joined the Walk before, make this year your first! If you're a pro at bundling up and clapping with your mittens on, ask a friend to join! (From NE right to Life)