

September 13, 2026
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Father Randal Kasel, Pastor frkasel@bevcomm.net

Josefina Meyer & Sara McNamara, Staff

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL 749 South Main St., Zumbrota, MN 55992

Office: 732-5324 **Email:** stpauls@hcinet.net

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9am-noon, 1-5pm, Wed Closed, Fri 9am-noon

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL 451 5th St. SW, Pine Island, MN 55963

Office: 356-4280 **Email:** stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net

Office Hours: Tues-Thurs 9am-noon & 1pm-5pm, Fri 9am-noon

Website: <http://www.stpaulstmichael.com>

BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE: All articles for the bulletin are due by noon on Wednesday. Please e-mail Saint Paul articles to stpauls@hcinet.net and Saint Michael articles to stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net. The business office reserves the right to edit articles as time and space allows.

From Father Kasel

Praised be Jesus Christ through Mary!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

During this month of September, Catholics are encouraged to grow in our devotion to the Triumph of the Holy Cross of our Lord Jesus (the feast is September 14) and the Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary (the memorial is September 15) and the Holy Angels (September 29).

This coming Monday we celebrate the Exaltation of the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ! This weekend I offer the history of this Feast and a sermon by St. Andrew of Crete on the Holy Cross. First the history: "The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross celebrates three historical events: the finding of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine; the dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the emperor Heraclius II. But in a deeper sense, the feast also celebrates the Holy Cross as the instrument of our salvation. This instrument of torture, designed to degrade the worst of criminals, became the life-giving tree that reversed Adam's Original Sin when he ate from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden.

History of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross: After the death and resurrection of Christ, both the Jewish and Roman authorities in Jerusalem made efforts to obscure the Holy Sepulchre, Christ's tomb in the garden near the site of His crucifixion. The earth had been mounded up over the site, and pagan temples had been built on top of it. The Cross on which Christ had died had been hidden (tradition said) by the Jewish authorities somewhere in the vicinity. According to tradition, first mentioned by St. Cyril of Jerusalem in 348, St. Helena, nearing the end of her life, decided under Divine Inspiration to travel to Jerusalem in 326 to excavate the Holy Sepulchre and attempt to locate the True Cross. A Jew by the name of Judas, aware of the tradition concerning the hiding of the Cross, led those excavating the Holy Sepulchre to the spot in which it was hidden.

Three crosses were found on the spot. According to one tradition, the inscription *Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum* ("Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews") remained attached to the True Cross. According to a more common tradition, however, the inscription was missing, and St. Helena and St. Macarius, the bishop of Jerusalem, assuming that one was the True Cross and the other two belonged to the thieves crucified alongside Christ, devised an experiment to determine which was the True Cross.

In one version of the latter tradition, the three crosses were taken to a woman who was near death; when she touched the True Cross, she was healed. In another, the body of a dead man was brought to the place where the three crosses were found, and laid upon each cross. The True Cross restored the dead man to life.

In celebration of the discovery of the Holy Cross, Constantine ordered the construction of churches at the site of the Holy Sepulchre and on Mount Calvary. Those churches were dedicated on September 13 and 14, 335, and shortly thereafter the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross began to be celebrated on the latter date. The feast slowly spread from Jerusalem to other churches, until, by the year 720, the celebration was universal.

Welcome to the Churches of

St. Paul &

St. Michael



We are happy that you are here! If you are new to our parishes, please call or stop at the Parish Office. We would love to meet you and answer any questions that you might have!

SACRAMENTS

Confession - Saturday 4:00pm at St. Michael; Sunday 8:25am at St. Paul and 8:00am before daily weekday Holy Mass at both parishes.

Baptism - Please contact the parish office.

Matrimony - Please call Father Kasel at least six months prior to make arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick - This is for someone who is seriously ill, dealing with major surgery or infirm. Please contact Father Kasel to make arrangements.

WEEKEND HOLY MASS SCHEDULE:

Church of Saint Paul - Sunday Confessions at 8:25am, Rosary at 8:20am, Mass at 8:45am

Church of Saint Michael - Saturday Confessions at 4:00pm, Rosary at 4:35pm, Mass at 5:00pm

Church of Saint Michael - Sunday Mass at 7:00am, Rosary at 10:05am, Mass at 10:30am

WEEKDAY HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Church of Saint Paul - Tuesday and Thursday

Confession 8am & Mass 8:30am, Rosary at 8:10am before Mass

Church of Saint Michael - Wednesday and Friday

Confession 8am and Mass 8:30am

In the early seventh century, the Persians conquered Jerusalem, and the Persian king Khosrau II captured the True Cross and took it back to Persia. After Khosrau's defeat by Emperor Heraclius II, Khosrau's own son had him assassinated in 628 and returned the True Cross to Heraclius. In 629, Heraclius, having initially taken the True Cross to Constantinople, decided to restore it to Jerusalem. Tradition says that he carried the Cross on his own back, but when he attempted to enter the church on Mount Calvary, a strange force stopped him. Patriarch Zacharias of Jerusalem, seeing the emperor struggling, advised him to take off his royal robes and crown and to dress in a penitential robe instead. As soon as Heraclius took Zacharias' advice, he was able to carry the True Cross into the church.

For some centuries, a second feast, the Invention of the Cross, was celebrated on May 3 in the Roman and Gallican churches, following a tradition that marked that date as the day on which St. Helena discovered the True Cross. In Jerusalem, however, the finding of the Cross was celebrated from the beginning on September 14." (from www.catholicism.about.com)

A sermon by St. Andrew of Crete: "We are celebrating the Feast of the Cross which drove away darkness and brought in the light. As we keep this Feast, we are lifted up with the crucified Christ, leaving behind us earth and sin so that we may gain the things above. So great and outstanding a possession is the Cross that he who wins it has won a Treasure. Rightly could I call this Treasure the fairest of all fair things and the costliest, in fact as well as in Name, for on it and through it and for its sake the riches of salvation that had been lost were restored to us.

Had there been no Cross, Christ could not have been crucified. Had there been no Cross, Life itself could not have been nailed to the tree. And if Life had not been nailed to it, there would be no streams of immortality pouring from Christ's side, Blood and Water for the world's cleansing. The legal bond of our sin (continued on page 4)

The next Holy Hour and Social for Men: Sunday, September 13, at 6:30pm at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island. Father Kasel will give a talk on *Spiritual Combat for Our Times*. All men are invited!

CHURCH OF SAINT MICHAEL NEWS

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL FAITH FORMATION

The next Formation session will be on Wednesday, October 7, at the Church of St. Michael.

Below is the schedule:

6:00-6:30pm - Meal
6:35-7:25pm - Children Class/Parent & Adult Session
7:30-7:45pm - Church for Adoration (At 7:30pm all students, parents and teachers gather in the Church for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction).

Our program is open for all of our parishioners to attend and it will benefit all ages!

Quilting Bee Cause will meet Tuesday, September 15, and September 22. We meet in the church hall at 9 a.m. We welcome anyone wishing to help make quilts for the needy. We have all the supplies. Please join us. Any questions, please contact Bea Rauhen, 507 356 4858.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

(for caregivers of Adults with Chronic Conditions)

Are you a caregiver? Join us for a six-week workshop, led by trained staff and volunteers, to help as you care for an older adult at home, in a nursing home, care facility, or across the country. Sessions will be Tuesdays, September 22-October 27, 9:30-11:00 am, at the Van Horn Public Library in Pine Island. You will receive a caregiver workbook/reference book to use in the sessions and keep at home. *Powerful Tools for Caregivers* is an evidence-based program that helps you develop a wealth of tools to reduce stress, change negative self-talk, communicate more effectively, recognize the messages in emotions, and make tough caregiving decisions. Class size is limited and registration is required. Workbook has a minimal cost. Class cost is by donation. Please register by calling Elder Network at 507-285-5272.

Prayer to our Blessed Mother

Dearest Mother Mary, Our Lady of Carmel, I, a poor and unworthy sinner, beseech you to intercede for me! I implore your loving Immaculate Heart to help me to give myself to Jesus as He so mercifully gives Himself to me in the Holy Eucharist. Please teach me to understand His burning desire to come into my little heart. In union with you, Mother Mary, let Jesus find another Heaven in my soul, where He can take delight and find consolation. Please be a Mother to me, that I may receive our good Lord Jesus worthily today, and that He may be pleased to make fruitful my desire to love Him, all for His glory and honor. Amen.



†**ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT**†
Can you spend an hour with Jesus? Adoration is held at St. Paul, Zumbrota, on Tuesdays from 9am-5pm and at St. Michael, Pine Island, on Wednesdays from 9am-5pm.



Institute of Catholic Culture Lecture

Blessed Fulton Sheen: Missionary to Nations

While St. John Paul II is widely credited with the call for a "New Evangelization," we can rightly say that it is Blessed Fulton Sheen who is its father. By using the airways to evangelize the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Sheen reached millions of Catholics and non-Catholics alike, renewing young and old in the saving truths of our Faith. Join Monsignor Roger Landry as we celebrate the beatification of Fulton Sheen and launch the ICC's new curriculum year.

Wednesday, September 30

Pre-Class Discussion: 7:30PM, Lecture: 8:00 PM. Registration required.

Instructor: Very Rev. Roger Landry

Visit: <http://instituteofcatholicculture.org/events/blessed-fulton-sheen/>

Queen of the Americas Guild Conference

Join the Queen of the Americas Guild for a 2-day conference examining Our Lady's role as *Compassionate Mother to All That Live Together in This Land*. Open to all those who wish to enhance their faith and learn more about this important topic. Date: October 16 and 17; Location: Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, LaCrosse, WI; Cost: \$125

Pine Island Food Shelf: Items requested for September: Cereals - including oatmeal

WEEKLY TITHING September 5-6, 2026

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 9,972.00
Plate:	\$ 1,236.60
EFT:	\$ 3,720.00
Total:	\$ 14,928.60

Join us for our Oktoberfest at the Church of St. Michael October 2 - 4, 2026



FALL FISH FRY- Friday, October 2, from 4-7:30pm

Join us for our fabulous St. Michael Fish Fry!

Both baked & fried fish will be offered!

Take out available!



Join the Pine Car Derby RACE!

OKTOBERFEST, Sunday, October 4

(Registration begins at 12pm and Race starts 1pm).

Food available for free-will offering (delicious Brats)!



Dear Parishioners:

Mums are available for sale! Prices are: \$20 for a solid color and \$25 for a tri-color mum. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser and our Oktoberfest!

In Christ through Mary, Fr. Kasel



Baskets/Items for the Fall Festival Silent Auction:



Calling all parishioners! We are looking for silent auction baskets and items for our silent auction fundraiser. We are in need of baskets to be donated for the Silent Auction held during the Festival this Fall. Please make up any type of "basket" that you like or any individual items, including religious items, gift certificates, gift cards, homemade items or purchased items.

Please drop off any items at the parish office. Thank you!

AN INVITATION FROM JESUS

Do you have no regular commitments during weekday mornings? Are you interested in growing in love with the One who loves you most - Jesus? Consider coming to Holy Mass on weekdays! Holy Mass, Confession and the Holy Rosary are offered Tuesday through Friday at our parishes. Come to sanctify your weekdays with Jesus - He is waiting for you!



Holy Mass Times

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

8:00am Confessions/8:30am

9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, September 18, 2026

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass

Saturday, September 19, 2026

4:00-4:50pm Confessions

5:00pm Holy Mass

Sunday, September 20, 2026

7:00am Holy Mass (Latin)

10:30am Holy Mass

Holy Mass Intentions

September 16, 2026 Leah Monosmith

September 18, 2026 Brian & Abby Hoerle & family (Julie Hoerle)

September 19, 2026 Julie Miller

September 20, 2026 Parishioners

September 20, 2026 John & Susan Kerian (Joseph & Crystal Kerian)



CHURCH OF SAINT PAUL NEWS

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL FAITH FORMATION

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7:30-7:45pm - Church for Adoration (At 7:30pm all students, parents and teachers gather in the Church for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction).

Our program is open for all of our parishioners to attend and it will benefit all ages!

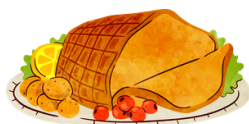
Small Group Study: All are invited to a small group study using Archbishop Hebda's pastoral letter *Only One Thing is Necessary*. Meeting five Wednesdays: September 23 & 30, and October 14, 21, & 28, at 6:00pm, at the Church of St. Paul, Zumbrota. Books will be provided.

SAVE THE DATE!

**St. Paul CCW LASAGNA
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026**



SAVE THE DATE - APRIL 11, 2027 ST. PATRICK'S HAM DINNER



Prayerfully consider being a co-chairman of the planning committee. Ideally three couples are co-chairs – each serving a three year term. The first year is learning; the second year more responsibility; third year you are the leads.

All are welcome. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

PRO-LIFE QUOTES:

"Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person – among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life." *Catechism of the Catholic Church 2270*

"You have been my guide since I was first formed...from my mother's womb you are my God" *Psalms 22:10-11* "You are called to stand up for life! To respect and defend the mystery of life always and everywhere, including the lives of unborn babies, giving real help and encouragement to mothers in difficult situations. You are called to work and pray against abortion." *St. John Paul II, in New York, 1995*

"The hairsplitting difference between formed and unformed makes no difference to us. Whoever deliberately commits abortion is subject to the penalty for homicide." *St. Basil the Great (329-379), Father and Doctor of the Church*

"The greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion because it is war against the child." *St. Teresa of Calcutta*

Fall Bazaar: Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Mazeppa invites all to the Fall Bazaar on Sunday, September 13, from 11am to 1:30pm. There will be a Ham and Turkey Dinner (\$15 each, kids under age of 5 are free), a Raffle and Country Store.

NET Retreat: Holy Trinity Parish invites area youth in grades 7-9 to attend a retreat on Saturday, September 26. NET Ministries is sending a team of missionaries between the ages of 18-28 to lead a retreat from 12:30-7:30 pm at Holy Trinity Church in Goodhue. The retreat will include dynamic talks and presentations, small group discussions, music, and prayer, along with lots of good pizza, delicious food, and fun! Sign up by calling 651-923-4472 or email faithformation@holyltrinitygoodhue.org by September 16.

Want to grow in our Catholic Faith?

You can learn about our Catholic Faith online at any time through FORMED! You will have access to thousands of enriching Catholic movies, programs, audio, & books instantly on FORMED when you sign up through our parishes. There is no cost for you! Just follow these easy steps: 1. Visit: signup.formed.org, 2. Enter your parish zip code or name (St. Michael 55963 or St. Paul 55992), 3. Grow in our Catholic Faith!

WEEKLY TITHING September 6, 2026

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 595.00
Plate:	\$ 340.00
EFT:	\$ 1,415.00
Total:	\$ 2,350.00

Save the date! St. Paul CCW will have their next meeting on Tuesday, September 15, with Holy Mass at 6 pm, followed by the meeting. All ladies of the parish are invited.

Words to Live By:

"The Cross is the School of Love." *St. Maximilian Kolbe*
"Let us bear our Cross and leave it to God to determine the length and the weight." *St. Rose Philippine Duchesne*
"God has, in His Wisdom, foreseen from eternity the Cross that He now presents to you as a gift from His inmost Heart." *St. Francis de Sales*
"Remember that when your heart feels restless, when your heart feels hurt, when your heart feels like breaking... 'I am precious to Him. He has called me by name. I am His. He loves me.' And to prove that love He died on the Cross." *St. Teresa of Calcutta*
"One cannot desire freedom from the Cross when one is especially chosen for the Cross." *St. Theresa Benedicta of the Cross*
Yes, I love the Cross, the Cross alone, because I always see it behind Jesus' shoulders." *St. Pio of Pietrelcina*



40 Days for Life Fall Campaign

begins with an opening prayer vigil on Monday, September 21, at 6:30 p.m. in front of Planned Parenthood, 1212 7th St. NW, Rochester. Join us as we start the 40 days Fall campaign (Sept. 23 - Nov. 1st) of prayer, fasting, and public witness to end abortion. Please park on the street or in the St. Pius parking lot, not in the shopping center lot. Reserve a vigil hour at: www.40daysforlife.com/rochester. Contact Patrice Steier at 40days4life26@gmail.com with questions or for assistance in signing up for vigil hours. Please join us to pray for an end to abortion!



St. Joseph's Business Guild is sponsoring a **Catholic Artisan Market** on Saturday, October 3, from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm in the courtyard of St. Mark's Church in St. Paul (2001 Dayton Avenue). Supporting local Catholic Makers, one handmade item at a time. Featuring *Forgetful Listener Music, Papa's Woodworks, Yarn at Play, She Sells Sanctuary, Holy Face Gifts, Alden Candles, Holy Family Greetings, Laura Ann's Agates & Art...* Want to be a vendor? Reach out at the QR code. Registered Guild members only. sjbusinessguild.org



Holy Mass Times

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

8:00am Confessions/8:30am
9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
6:00pm St. Paul CCW Holy Mass

Thursday, September 17, 2026

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass

Sunday, September 20, 2026

8:20am Rosary/8:25am Confessions
8:45am Holy Mass

Holy Mass Intentions

September 15, 2026	†Bing Bucher (Karen Hodgman)
September 15, 2026	†Barbara Aunan
September 17, 2026	†Carol Ann Coggins
September 20, 2026	Parishioners



NEWS FROM SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT PAUL

(From Father Kasel - from page 1) would not be cancelled, we should not have attained our freedom, we should not have enjoyed the fruit of the Tree of Life and the gates of Paradise would not stand open. Had there been no Cross, death would not have been trodden underfoot, nor hell despoiled. Therefore, the Cross is something wonderfully great and honorable. It is great because through the Cross the many noble acts of Christ found their consummation - very many indeed, for both His miracles and His sufferings were fully rewarded with Victory. The Cross is honorable because it is both the sign of God's suffering and the trophy of His Victory. It stands for His suffering because on it He freely suffered unto death. But it is also His trophy because it was the means by which the devil was wounded and death conquered; the barred gates of hell were smashed, and the Cross became the one common salvation of the whole world.

The Cross is called Christ's Glory; it is saluted as His Triumph. We recognize it as the cup He longed to drink and the climax of the sufferings He endured for our sake. As to the Cross being Christ's Glory, listen to His words: Now is the Son of Man glorified, and in Him God is glorified, and God will glorify Him at once. And again: Father, glorify Me with the Glory I had with You before the world came to be. And once more: "Father, glorify Your Name". Then a voice came from Heaven: "I have glorified It and will glorify It again". Here He speaks of the Glory that would accrue to Him through the Cross. And if you would understand that the Cross is Christ's Triumph, hear what He Himself also said: When I am lifted up, then I will draw all men to Myself. Now you can see that the Cross is Christ's Glory and Triumph." (Sermon by St. Andrew of Crete)

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser:

The St Pio Knights of Columbus will host a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser after the 7am and the 10:30am Holy Masses on Sunday, September 27, at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island.

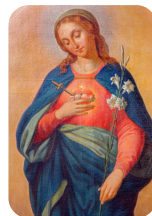


OCIA (ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS):

Do any of you or any of your family members, friends or acquaintances who are interested in becoming a Catholic or have questions about the Catholic faith? Please contact Father Kasel at Church of St. Michael 507-356-4280 or Church of St. Paul 507-732-5324 for more information about the Catholic faith and the OCIA process.



Prayer to the Virgin Mary:



My Queen, my Mother, I give myself entirely to you, and to show my devotion to you, I consecrate to you this day my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my entire self without reserve. As I am your own, my good Mother, guard me and defend me as your property and possession. Amen.

Through the intercession of Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Joseph, St. Michael, and St. Paul may our Lord Jesus grant us in abundance the blessings of the Triumph of His Holy Cross! In Christ through Mary, Fr. Kasel

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Contact the Parish Office;
visit: **www.kofc.org/join**

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Safe Environment: The Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis requires all volunteers who interact with minors or vulnerable adults to complete the Essential 3 (background check, Code of Conduct, and VIRTUS training) before beginning their service, and to renew every three years while serving. Please contact the Safe Environment Coordinator for details on how to complete the Essential 3, or do updates.

Report Abuse: If you or someone you know has been sexually abused, your first call should be to law enforcement.

Parish Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sara McNamara
St. Michael: 507-356-4280
stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net
St. Paul: 507-732-5324
stpauls@hcinet.net

St. Paul/Minneapolis Archdiocese Victim Assistance Program Hotline:
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