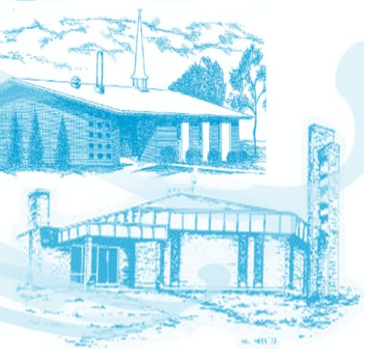


November 30, 2025 First Sunday of Advent

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

mentioned, the early Advent season was mainly penitential, close to the theme of the Lenten season. Today a penitential theme still exists, but it is not as intense as in 7th century. Also, it is blended with the theme of prayerful, spiritual preparation for the second and final coming of the Lord, as well as the joyful preparation for the annual festive remembrance of the Incarnation and Christ's birth.

In recent decades, a trend of wearing blue vestments rather than purple during Advent has emerged. However, purple is the appropriate vestment color, as noted in paragraph 346 of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, in the section which discusses the prescribed colors for liturgical vestments:

(continued on page 4)

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL FIRST LASAGNA SUPPER



Thursday, December 4, 2025 4:30-7:00pm

Enjoy the Lasagna, Salad, French bread, and Pie!
FREE WILL OFFERING! (More details on page 3)

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL 52ND HOLIDAY TEA



Saturday, December 6, 2025 9:00 - 11:30am

Baked goods, Crafts, & Raffle items are available.
Enjoy our Holiday Tea Table! (More details on page 2)

Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Holy Day of Obligation

Monday, December 8	St. Paul, Zumbrota	8:30am
Monday, December 8	St. Michael, Pine Island	5:30pm
Monday, December 8	St. Michael, Pine Island	7:00pm

The next **Holy Hour for Women** will be Sunday, November 30, at 6pm at the Church of St. Michael. Fr. Kasel will give a talk on: *Hope in God - Expect Miracles!* All women are invited!

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 **Fax:** (507) 732-5347 **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 **Fax:** (507) 356-2080 **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 though Mary!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

This weekend we begin the season of Advent. What do you know about this season in the Church that is all-too-often overlooked? Here is a brief article that can help remind us of the importance the Advent season:

"The word 'Advent' is from the Latin '*Adventus*,' which means 'coming.' Advent is the beginning of a new liturgical year (in the Western churches), and encompasses the span of time from the fourth Sunday before Christmas, until the Nativity of Our Lord is celebrated. The first Sunday of Advent is the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle (which is November 30th), and so it will always fall somewhere between November 27th at the earliest and December 3rd at the latest. The liturgical color for this season is purple (Usually a deep purple as opposed to the lighter, red-violet shade of purple associated with Lent).

Like Lent, Advent is a preparatory season. It has significance because it is a season of looking forward and waiting for something greater; both for the annual celebration of the event of Christ's birth, and for the time when Christ will come again.

As noted in the New Catholic Encyclopedia, during Advent, the faithful are asked:

- to prepare themselves worthily to celebrate the anniversary of the Lord's coming into the world as the incarnate God of Love,
- thus to make their souls fitting abodes for the Redeemer coming in Holy Communion and through grace, and
- thereby to make themselves ready for His final coming as judge - at death and at the end of the world.

Origin and History of Advent: The exact time when the season of Advent came to be celebrated is not precisely known. Of course, it was not in practice before the celebration of the Nativity and Christmastide began; the earliest evidence shows that the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord was established within the later part of the 4th century. There are homilies from the 5th century that discuss preparation in a general sense, but do not indicate an official liturgical season. A Synod held in 590 established that Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from November 11th until the Nativity would be offered according to the Lenten rite. This and other traditions, such as fasting, show that the period of time now established as the Advent season was more penitential (similar to Lent) than the liturgical season as we know it today.

A collection of homilies from Pope St. Gregory the Great (whose papacy was from 590-604) included a sermon for the second Sunday of Advent, and by (the year) 650, Spain was celebrating the Sundays (five at the time) of Advent. So it seems the liturgical season was established around the latter part of the 6th century and first half of the 7th century. For the next couple of centuries, Advent was celebrated for five Sundays; Pope Gregory VII, who was pope from 1073-85, reduced the number to four Sundays.

Advent Today: The themes and traditions of the Advent season have evolved throughout the history of the liturgical season. As

CHURCH OF SAINT MICHAEL NEWS

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL FAITH FORMATION

The next Faith Formation session will be on **Wednesday, December 3**, at the Church of St. Michael.

Topic for December:

PreK- Grade 3: Appendices 1-4 (Prayers, Holy Bible, Liturgy, Christian Living); **Grades 4-6:** Appendices A-C: (Ten Commandments & Beatitudes, Duties of Catholics, Prayers); **Confirmation 1, 2, & Adults:** Chap. 25 (Final Reunion with God) & Appendices A-C.

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!

Holy Spirit Novena: December 1 to December 9

Christmas Flowers: This year we will again be collecting Christmas Flower offerings for the purchase of poinsettias for the Christmas Season. You will find a Christmas Flower envelope in your packet. The suggested donation is \$13. Please put your envelope in the collection basket by Sunday, December 14. If you miss this deadline, please drop off donation at the Church office the following week.

23rd Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony: All are invited to attend the 23rd Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony at the historic Church of St. Rose (8778 County Highway 11 Blvd., Kenyon, MN) on Sunday, December 21, at 2:00pm. Deacon Newell McGee will preside. Music by St. Rose Brass. Reception to follow at the Palof residence. More information at www.friendsofstrose.org.

Quilting Bee Cause: *Thank you* to everyone who donated in any way to the making of quilts for the needy. Quilting Bee Cause delivered 44 quilts to the Salvation Army. We were met with big smiles and much appreciation. We know they will be used to keep someone warm with this cold weather. We are taking a break until after the holidays. Watch this bulletin for further notice.

Panthers Holiday Helpers Project:

Dear Parishioners, Panthers Holiday Helpers Project needs your help! This Christmas project collects gift donations for children in need from Pine Island and Oronoco. You may donate any of the following winter wear: **hats, caps, scarves, mittens, snowpants, gloves, and/or face masks.** These donations will go to both girls and boys, from birth to 18 years. Please consider making a donation to this worthy project. If you wish to make a monetary donation, someone from the Church of St. Michael will shop for you. Families will be coming to the school to choose the items for their children, so **please do NOT wrap them.** Please bring donations by **December 6** and place in the box in the entryway.



†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 St. Michael, Pine Island on Wednesdays from 9am-5pm.

Institute of Catholic Culture Lecture

Unless a Grain of Wheat: *An Advent Evening with St. Barbara* Saint Barbara, whose feast we celebrate on December 4, is one of the early virgin martyrs of the Church whose witness to the faith has fired the imagination of generations of Christians. Join us to hear her story, learn some of the beautiful festival customs traditionally associated with her feast, and draw inspiration for deeper devotion during the Advent season.

Details: Tuesday, December 2

Pre-Class Discussion: 7:30 PM ET, Lecture: 8:00 PM ET
Instructor: Rev. Hezekias Carnazzo, Registration is required.
Visit: <https://instituteofcatholicculture.org/events/unless-a-grain-of-wheat>

WEEKLY TITHING November 22-23, 2025

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 1,450.00
Plate:	\$ 932.00
EFT:	\$ 960.00
Total:	\$ 3,342.00

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL 52ND HOLIDAY TEA

December 6, 2025 from 9:00 - 11:30am

"Glory to God in the Highest!"

Baked goods, Crafts, & Raffle items are available.
Enjoy our Holiday Tea Table!



Ladies of the Parish: Please sign up to bring baked goods & other food, volunteer to work, and/or give monetary donations. The sign-up sheet is at the entrance of the Church.

Congratulations to:

Javier and Maria Ocariz on the baptism of their son
Titus Daniel Ocariz on November 23, 2025 at St. Michael.



WORDS TO LIVE BY:

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern." *St. Teresa of Calcutta*
"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you." *St. Teresa of Calcutta*
"If we would please this Divine Infant, we too must become children, simple and humble; we must carry to Him flowers of virtue, of meekness, of mortification, of charity; we must clasp Him in the arms of our love." *St. Alphonsus Ligouri*
"Rejoice and be glad that so great and good a Lord, on coming into the Virgin's womb, willed to appear despised, needy, and poor in this world, so that men who were in dire poverty and suffering great need of heavenly food might be made rich in Him." *St. Clare of Assisi*
"Open to the Spirit, [Mary] consecrated herself totally as lowly handmaid to the person and work of the Savior. She received Christ in order to share Him with all the world whose hope He is. In her, we recognize the model of the Church's Faith and our own." *St. Eugene de Mazenod*

Pine Island Food Shelf: Our Special item for December is actually **YOUR CHOICE.**

HOLY MASS TIMES

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass
9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, December 5, 2025

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass
5:30pm First Friday Holy Mass (Latin)

Saturday, December 6, 2025

4:00pm-4:50pm Confessions
5:00pm Holy Mass

Sunday, December 7, 2025

7:00am Latin Holy Mass
10:30am Holy Mass

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

December 3, 2025	Fr. Kasel
December 5, 2025	Lucy Simones (Paul Lorentz)
December 5, 2025	Brian McCoy (Bill McCoy)
December 6, 2025	†Rich Rolfson (Barb Rolfson)
December 7, 2025	†Judy Bestgen (Sue & Sue Bestgen)
December 7, 2025	Parishioners



CHURCH OF SAINT PAUL NEWS

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL FAITH FORMATION

The next Faith Formation session will be on **Wednesday, December 3**, at the Church of St. Michael.

Topic for December:

PreK- Grade 3: Appendices 1-4 (Prayers, Holy Bible, Liturgy, Christian Living); **Grades 4-6:** Appendices A-C: (Ten Commandments & Beatitudes, Duties of Catholics, Prayers); **Confirmation 1, 2, & Adults:** Chap. 25 (Final Reunion with God) & Appendices A-C.

Below is the schedule:

6:00-6:30pm - Meal
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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!

Holy Spirit Novena: December 1 to December 9

Advent: the Two Comings of our Lord

"We do not preach only one coming of Christ, but a second as well, much more glorious than the first. The first coming was marked by patience; the second will bring the crown of a Divine Kingdom. In general, whatever relates to our Lord Jesus Christ has two aspects. There is a birth from God before the ages, and a birth from a Virgin at the fullness of time. There is a hidden coming, like that of rain on fleece, and a coming before all eyes, still in the future. At the first coming He was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At His second coming He will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming He endured the Cross, despising the shame; in the second coming He will be in glory, escorted by an army of Angels. We look then beyond the first coming and await the second. At the first coming we said: *Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord*. At the second, we shall say it again; we shall go out with the Angels to meet the Lord and cry out in adoration: *Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord*.

The Savior will not come to be judged again, but to judge those by whom He was judged. At His own judgment He was silent; then He will address those who committed the outrages against Him when they crucified Him and will remind them: *You did these things, and I was silent*. His first coming was to fulfill His plan of Love, to teach men by gentle persuasion. This time, whether men like it or not, they will be subjects of His Kingdom by necessity. Malachi the prophet speaks of the two comings. *And the Lord whom you seek will come suddenly to His temple: that is one coming*. Again he says of another coming: *Look, the Lord almighty will come, and who will endure the day of His entry, or who will stand in His sight? Because He comes like a refiner's fire, a fuller's herb, and He will sit refining and cleansing*. These two comings are also referred to by Paul in writing to Titus: *The Grace of God the Savior has appeared to all men, instructing us to put aside impiety and worldly desires and live temperately, uprightly, and religiously in this present age, waiting for the joyful hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ*. Notice how he speaks of a first coming for which he gives thanks, and a second, the one we still await. That is why the Faith we profess has been handed on to you in these words: *He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His Kingdom will have no end*. Our Lord Jesus Christ will therefore come from Heaven. He will come at the end of the world, in glory, at the last day. For there will be an end to this world, and the created world will be made new." (From a catechetical instruction by St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop)

WEEKLY TITHING November 23, 2025

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 235.00
Plate:	\$ 277.00
Total:	\$ 512.00



First Annual

Lasagna Supper

Thursday, December 4, from 4:30-7:00pm
at the Church of St. Paul, Zumbrota

Enjoy the Lasagna, Salad, French bread, and Pie!

FREE WILL OFFERING!

Hosted by: The Church of St. Paul Council of Catholic Women (CCW)

ALL ARE INVITED!

Ladies of the Parish: Please sign up to volunteer to work and/or give monetary donations. The sign-up sheet is at the entrance of the Church.

2025 Holiday Community Collection: We will again be participating in the Zumbrota Holiday community collection for families in need. Suggested items are gift cards (\$20 increments), paper products, hygiene products, winter gear, and laundry detergent. Reminder notes are available on the board in the vestibule. Return items to the office or the vestibule by **December 5**.

Thank you for your generosity in sharing God's gifts with those in need. May our gifts show God's love for them this Christmas. Please contact the parish office 507-732-5324 with any questions.

Christmas Flowers: This year we will again be collecting Christmas Flower offerings for the purchase of poinsettias for the Christmas Season. You will find a Christmas Flower envelope in your packet. The suggested donation is \$13. Please put your envelope in the collection basket by Sunday, December 14. If you miss this deadline, please drop off donation at the Church office the following week.



You are invited to join us! A small group for retired parishioners meets twice a month on Thursdays after Holy Mass at the Church of St. Paul. We have prayer, fellowship, and often show videos followed by discussion and end with prayer intentions. We meet for about 1- 1½ hours. If interested in joining or have questions, contact Barb Boraas 507-735-5877 or Maggie Eggerichs 507-951-2316.

Save the Date! Birthright of Rochester Fundraiser-January 23, 2026!
Trivia Night returns! Mark your calendars and gather your smartest (or silliest!) friends for an evening of food, laughter, friendly competition, and support for Birthright of Rochester. Stay tuned for details. You won't want to miss it!



WEEKLY ROSARY: You are invited to join in praying the weekly Holy Rosary with Zumbrota Care Center residents on Mondays at 1:30pm. We meet in the South Day Room. If you have any questions, call Barb Boraas at 507 732 5877.

HOLY MASS TIMES

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass
9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, December 4, 2025

8:00am Confessions/8:30am

Sunday, December 7, 2025

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

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

December 2, 2025	Rita Morgan (St. Paul CCW)
December 4, 2025	Mary Therneau (Dawn Udenberg)
December 7, 2025	Parishioners

Give the gift of an Hour of Adoration for someone. Cards are in the vestibule to send to the recipient.



NEWS FROM SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT PAUL

(from page 1)

- *Violet or purple is used in Advent and Lent. It may also be worn in Offices and Masses for the Dead.*
- *Rose may be used, where it is the practice, on Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday of Advent) and on Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent).*

Advent Traditions: Advent celebration and traditions can vary from place to place, influenced by culture. However, some traditions have come to be common throughout the Catholic Church.

The Advent wreath is likely the most popular tradition, and wreaths are typically present in both the parish church and in the home. It is a more recent tradition, with the modern Advent wreath emerging in Germany and spreading throughout Europe and beyond in the 1930's. It is often circular, representing God's eternity, and it includes 4 candles - one for each Sunday of Advent. Many families have a wreath in the home, and will light the candles each Sunday and say Advent prayers together.

The Jesse Tree is also a popular Advent tradition. A Jesse Tree, named for the father of David, is a tree that is decorated gradually throughout Advent with symbols or pictures of biblical persons associated with the gradual coming of the Messiah, Christ. This includes, among others, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Joseph and Mary. The Jesse Tree tradition provides a wonderful teaching opportunity; it is a perfect way to teach and remind children about the preparatory nature of Advent. Advent calendars are another popular tradition, although they most often follow the calendar month of December, not the four Sundays which can begin in November." (from www.aquinasandmore.com)

Through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, St. Joseph, St. Michael and Paul, may the Holy Spirit help us during Advent to prepare for the celebration of the Birthday of our good Lord Jesus!

In Christ through Mary,

Fr. Kasel

St. Andrew Christmas Novena Prayer to Obtain Special Graces
Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour, vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.

It is piously believed that whoever recites the above prayer fifteen times a day from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30) until Christmas (December 25) will obtain what is asked.

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection: December 6-7
Thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies—often for little or no pay. Now, their religious communities do not have enough savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

PRO-LIFE QUOTES:

"Abortion kills twice. It kills the body of the baby and it kills the conscience of the mother. Abortion is profoundly anti-women. Three quarters of its victims are women: Half the babies and all the mothers."

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

"Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you: be not afraid!" *St. John Paul II*

"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*

 MAXON FAMILY Parishioner  Cremation & Life Celebrations 1624 37th Street NW, Rochester, MN 55901	 Hub Food Center 228 West Ave. Zumbrota 507-732-7329 http://www.nilssensfoods.com	ZUMBROTA MINI STORAGE LIGHTING—PAVED 24 HOUR ACCESS 507-696-4406	
 Pork & Plants Heritage Farm ERIC KREIDERMACHER & FAMILY Red Wattle Pork* Grass-fed Beef* Pastured Chicken* *no corn, no soy, non-GMO, and vaccine free Meat is available year-round as individual cuts, bundles, and whole or half animals. Pickup and limited delivery available (507) 458-2175 Email: eric@porkandplants.com www.porkandplants.com "Healthy Land, Healthy Meat, Healthy Families"	Mahn Family Funeral Homes Larson Chapel 1475 Jefferson Dr. Zumbrota, MN (507) 732-5444 Mahler Chapel 209 NW 1st Ave. Pine Island, MN (507) 356-4620 mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com	QUARRY HILL FAMILY DENTAL DR. MOLLY JARRETT PARISHIONER Monday and Tuesday 7-5pm, Wednesday 7:30-5pm, Thursday 11-5pm www.quarryhillfamilydental.com 507-216-9891 828 11th Ave NE, Rochester, MN Comfortable, Convenient Dental Care for the Entire Family	 QUARRY HILL FAMILY DENTAL
 Reliable HEATING & COOLING 507-732-4777 24 Hr. Emergency Service Residential & Light Commercial Serving Zumbrota & Surrounding Communities	Owen Locker Plant 110 2nd St. NE Pine Island, MN 55963 507-356-8612	 Accountants that you can trust Yasmine Ramirez CPA, MBA 718-825-8196 yramirez@mrfinancialsolutions.com Fractional CFO, Consulting, Budgeting, Accounting, Bookkeeping Corporate, & Individual tax returns	DO YOU OR A LOVED ONE STRUGGLE TO CARE FOR YOUR FEET? Welcome to Foot Care Professionals! Providing medical care for your feet • Toenail trimming & debridement • Callus paring • Swift microwave therapy for wart removal • KeryFlex nail reconstruction • OnyFix nonsurgical ingrown toenail correction Call 507-269-7827 for appointment or book online at footcaremn.com  
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: (651) 291-4475		ST. PIO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 16016 JOIN US Brother Knights of our Council invite you to join us. Contact the Parish Office visit: www.kofc.org/join