

**December 4, 2022 Second Sunday of Advent**

**Father Randal Kasel, Pastor** frkasel@bevcomm.net

*Josefina Meyer & Sara McNamara, Staff*

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

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**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

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**OFFICE HOURS:** Tues-Thurs 9am-noon & 1pm-5pm, Fri 9am-noon

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**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 smichaeloffice@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,

This week we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (December 8). The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin is one the most sublime of the doctrines of our Catholic Faith. It is also one of the most hope-inspiring doctrines of our Catholic Faith. You may be wondering: what exactly is this teaching? This is a good time to review this wonderful and exceedingly important doctrine. Here is what our Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches:

“What the Catholic Faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what It teaches about Mary illumines in turn its Faith in Christ.

‘God sent forth His Son’, but to prepare a body for Him (Galatians 4:4; Hebrews 10:5), He wanted the free co-operation of a creature. For this, from all eternity God chose for the mother of His Son a daughter of Israel, a young Jewish woman of Nazareth in Galilee, ‘a Virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the Virgin’s Name was Mary’ (Luke 1:26-27): The Father of Mercies willed that the Incarnation should be preceded by assent on the part of the predestined mother, so that just as a woman had a share in the coming of death, so also should a woman contribute to the coming of Life. (Lumen Gentium 56; cf. Lumen Gentium 61)

Throughout the Old Covenant the mission of many holy women prepared for that of Mary. At the very beginning there was Eve; despite her disobedience, she receives the promise of a posterity that will be victorious over the evil one, as well as the promise that she will be the mother of all the living. (Cf. Genesis 3:15, 20) By virtue of this promise, Sarah conceives a son in spite of her old age.

(Cf. Genesis 18:10-14; 21:1-2) Against all human expectation God chooses those who were considered powerless and weak to show forth His faithfulness to His promises: Hannah, the mother of Samuel; Deborah; Ruth; Judith and Esther; and many other women. (Cf. 1 Corinthians 1:17; 1 Samuel 1) Mary ‘stands out among the poor and humble of the Lord, who confidently hope for and receive salvation from Him. After a long period of waiting the times are fulfilled in her, the exalted Daughter of Sion, and the new plan of salvation is established.’ (Lumen Gentium 55)

To become the Mother of our Savior, Mary ‘was enriched by God with gifts appropriate to such a role.’ (Lumen Gentium 56) The Angel Gabriel at the moment of the Annunciation salutes her as ‘full of Grace’. (Luke 1:28) In fact, in order for Mary to be able to give the free assent of her Faith to the announcement of her vocation, it was necessary that she be wholly borne by God’s Grace.

Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, ‘full of Grace’ through God, (Luke 1:28) was redeemed from the moment of her conception. That is what the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1854: The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular Grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of Original Sin. (Pius IX, Ineffabilis De-

# **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

us (1854): DS 2803)

The ‘splendor of an entirely unique holiness’ by which Mary is ‘enriched from the first instant of her conception’ comes wholly from Christ: she is ‘redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son’. (Lumen Gentium 53, 56) The Father blessed Mary more than any other created person ‘in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places’ and chose her ‘in Christ before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before Him in Love’. (Cf. Ephesians 1:3-4)

The Fathers of the Eastern tradition call the Mother of God ‘the All-Holy’ (Panagia), and celebrate her as ‘free from any stain of sin, as though fashioned by the Holy Spirit and formed as a new creature’. (Lumen Gentium 56) By the Grace of God, Mary remained free of every personal sin her whole life long.

At the announcement that she would give birth (continued on page 4)

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

Wednesday, December 7 St. Michael, Pine Island 8:00pm

Thursday, December 8 St. Michael, Pine Island 8:30 am

Thursday, December 8 St. Paul, Zumbrota 5:30pm

Thursday, December 8 St. Michael, Pine Island 7:00pm (Latin)



### **Individual Confession times during Advent\*\*:**

Sundays, Dec. 4, 11, & 18 St. Michael, Pine Island 7:00-7:45 am

Saturday, December 10 St. Michael, Pine Island 4:00-4:55 pm

Tuesday, December 13 St. Paul, Zumbrota 4:00-4:55 pm

Saturday, December 17 St. Michael, Pine Island 4:00-4:55 pm

Tuesday, December 20 St. Paul, Zumbrota 4:00-4:55 pm

Tuesday, December 20 St. Paul, Zumbrota 6:30-8:00 pm

Thursday, December 22 St. Michael, Pine Island 6:30-8:00 pm

Saturday, December 24 St. Michael, Pine Island 10:30am-noon

\*\*The Sacrament of Confession is also offered before each weekday Holy Mass

**The next Holy Hour for Men** will be on Sunday, December 11, at 6:30pm at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island. All men are invited!

# CHURCH OF SAINT MICHAEL NEWS

## CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL FAITH FORMATION

The next Faith Formation class/session will be Wednesday, December 7, at the Church of St. Michael.

**Topic for December: The Virtue of Prayerfulness or Piety**

**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.

## Happy 50th Birthday Celebration on December 4!

Father Kasel's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday is on December 3! We will be celebrating Father's birthday this Sunday, December 4, after the 10:30am Holy Mass. This will be a great opportunity to come together as a parish family to celebrate Father's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. Everyone is invited!

## St. Pio Knights of Columbus Advent Social

The next St. Pio KC Council membership meeting will be Wednesday, December 14, at the Church of St. Michael. We will have our Advent Social for all our members and their families. It will start at 5:30 PM with Holy Mass, followed by an Advent talk, meal and fellowship. Members are encouraged to invite prospective members. Plan now for this special event!

## The Truth about Confessing One's Sins

"The Holy Spirit says in the Psalms: *Your eyes have seen my imperfection and in Your book are all things written. Again, man looks on the face, God on the heart* (1 Sm 16:7). The Lord Himself also warns beforehand and forearms us, saying: *Let all the churches know that I am the searcher of hearts and minds* (Rv 2:23). He sees the hidden things, He contemplates what is concealed and unseen, nor is anyone able to escape the eyes of God who says: *I am a God who is near and not a God from afar off. If a man be hidden in hidden places, will I not therefore see him?* (Jer 23:23-24). He sees the minds and hearts of individuals and, destined to judge not only regarding deeds but also regarding our words and thoughts, He inspects the minds and wills of us all.

Let each of you confess, I beg you, brothers, his own sin while still in the world, while you can still be allowed Confession, while there is the possibility of making amends, and forgiveness, granted through the priests, is still efficacious with God. Let us turn to God with our whole heart and expressing penitence for our sin with true sorrowing, let us plead with God for His Mercy. Let us prostrate our soul before Him, let us repay our debt with mourning, and let all our Hope rest on His support.

God Himself tells us in what condition we must entreat: *Return to Me with all your heart and at the same time with fasting and weeping and lamentation, and rend your hearts and not your garments* (Jl 2:12-13). Let us turn again to the Lord with our whole heart." St. Cyprian († 258 - Bishop of Carthage (modern Tunisia) and a martyr)

## Institute of Catholic Culture Lecture: SWORDS AND SERPENTS: A Study of Salvation History by: Rev. Hezekias Carnazzo

Trying to read the Bible for the first time can be a frustrating and confusing experience for those seeking insight and guidance for their personal spiritual life. In this salvation history lecture series, you will be guided on a journey through the Scriptures and be given the tools needed to read them as a coherent whole. Following the major figures and events of the Bible, you will build bridges through the confusing and lesser known parts of Sacred Scripture so as to "connect the dots" from Adam to the coming of the Messiah.

Event Details: Mondays, December 5, & 12. Pre-Class Discussion: 7:30 PM EST, Lecture: 8:00 PM EST. Registration is required at: <https://instituteofcatholicculture.org/events/swords-and-serpents-regular-lecture-series>

**Pine Island Food Shelf:** items requested for December: Your choice!

## WEEKLY TITHING November 26-27, 2022

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 2,880.00
Plate:	\$ 612.25
EFT:	\$ 897.50
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 4,389.75</b>
Cemetery Collection	\$1,115.00

**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, Dec. 18. If you miss this deadline, please drop off donation at the Church office the following week. Any money collected over the cost of the Christmas flowers will be used for flowers in the sanctuary throughout the year. Thank you and God bless you!

## Advent Penances and Act of Charity

**Dear Parishioners:** As we enter Advent, I invite all to prayerfully consider undertaking voluntary penances and acts of Charity toward God and neighbor appropriate to this Season of the Church year. Doing this together across our parishes will increase our unity and provide new openings for the Holy Spirit to work in our parishes and our personal lives.

Here are some suggestions: abstaining from meat on Friday and another day of the week; fasting on Friday or another day of the week (fasting is: two half meals and only one full meal during that day, with no snacking in between meals); giving up desserts; volunteer your time at the church; make time for more personal prayer; attend one or two weekday Holy Masses per week; give special financial alms; forgive offenses; make apologies for wrongs and make a good Sacramental Confession. Your may also have some ideas for penances and acts of Charity. Let us make this an Advent that truly prepares our hearts for our good Lord at Christmas!

In Christ through Mary, Fr. Kasel

**Candle Lighting Ceremony:** All are invited to attend the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony at the historic Church of St. Rose on Sunday, December 18, at 2:00 p.m. Music provided by Brass Etc. Reception at the Palof residence. The church is located at 8778 County Hwy 11 Blvd., Kenyon 55946. [www.friendsofstroke.org](http://www.friendsofstroke.org)

## HOLY MASS TIMES

### Wednesday, December 7, 2022

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

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

8:00pm Vigil Holy Mass Immaculate Conception of the Bl. Virgin Mary

### Thursday, December 8, 2022

Immaculate Conception of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30am Holy Mass

7:00pm (Latin) Holy Mass

### Friday, December 9, 2022

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

### Saturday, December 10, 2022

4:00pm-4:50pm Confessions

5:00pm Holy Mass

### Sunday, December 11, 2022

7:00am Latin Holy Mass

10:30am Holy Mass

## HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

**December 7, 2022** †Richard Cook (Mary Hines)

**December 7, 2022** †Paul Aurit (Pam Beaulieu)

**December 8, 2022** †Theresa Van Zuijen (Paul & Mary Sutton)

**December 8, 2022** Parishioners

**December 9, 2022** †unbaptized babies

**December 10, 2022** †Carl Anderson (Pat McCutcheon)

**December 11, 2022** Madalyn Berns

**December 11, 2022** Parishioners



# CHURCH OF SAINT PAUL NEWS

## CHURCH OF ST. PAUL FAITH FORMATION

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## Happy 50th Birthday Celebration on December 4!

Father Kasel's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday is on December 3! We will be celebrating Father's birthday this Sunday, December 4, after the 8:45am Holy Mass. This will be a great opportunity to come together as a parish family to celebrate Father's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. Everyone is invited!

**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, Dec. 18. If you miss this deadline, please drop off donation at the Church office the following week. Any money collected over the cost of the Christmas flowers will be used for flowers in the sanctuary throughout the year. Thank you and God bless you!

## Notes of gratitude received for the Appalachian Christmas Mission gifts:

*"Thank You and Terminal Transport for such an invaluable part of the Appalachian Christmas Truck 2022 (and for the many years in past). Know that without Terminal Transport this could not take place. There are five churches in eastern Kentucky who can assist so many with having a Christmas and without it being trucked from MN to KY, it would not happen. The Paintsville High School Football Team, Carl Perkins Center, and volunteers from all five parishes hand unloaded the truck this morning. Driver Sheila was excellent and really put the truck exactly where it needed to be. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU and may you and yours have a blessed Christmas. SO MANY FAMILIES WILL HAVE A CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR IN BIG PART BECAUSE OF YOUR generosity. Blessings, Deacon Paul David Brown" (St Michael Catholic Church, Paintsville, KY)*

*"I am very proud of the people from our area. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Have a Blessed Christmas and when you kneel at Church this year, you know in your heart that you helped God serve his Poorest of the Poor. May God Bless all of you and your families. Olive Hup!" (Appalachian Mission Coordinator in this area.)*

## PRO LIFE QUOTE:

Respect for life and for the dignity of the human personal also extends to the rest of creation, which is called to join man in praising God.|| St. John Paul II

"All who are genuinely committed to the advancement of women can and must offer a woman or a girl who is pregnant, frightened, and alone a better alternative than the destruction of her own unborn child" Mary Ann Glendon, 4th World Conference on Women, Beijing, Sept. 5, 1995

"The Gospel of Life is for the whole of human society. To be actively pro-life is to contribute to the renewal of society through the promotion of the common good." (#101) quotes from 'Gospel of Life, St. John Paul II)

## WEEKLY TITHING November 27, 2022

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 1,045.00
Plate:	\$ 396.00
Total:	\$ 1,441.00
Cemetery Collection	\$ 367.00

**Christmas Sharing Collection:** Please don't forget to drop off your donation items by Dec. 4 for those in our community that are in need this Christmas. Thank you for your generosity in sharing God's gifts with those in need.

The Church of St. Paul Parish office will be closed in the afternoon on Thursday, December 8.

## St. Pio Knights of Columbus Advent Social

The next St. Pio KC Council membership meeting will be Wednesday, December 14, at the Church of St. Michael. We will have our Advent Social for all our members and their families. It will start at 5:30 PM with Holy Mass, followed by an Advent talk, meal and fellowship. Members are encouraged to invite prospective members. Plan now for this special event!

## WORDS TO LIVE BY:

*"I am the Immaculate Conception." The Blessed Virgin Mary to St. Bernadette at Lourdes, France, in the year 1858.*

*"The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her Conception, by a singular Grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin." Blessed Pius IX in the year 1854.*

*"Mary was pleasing to God because of her docile humility. To the heavenly Messenger, she replied, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1,38). It is with the same interior disposition that believers are called to accept the Divine Will in every circumstance." St. John Paul II*

*"The Immaculate Conception shines like a beacon of light for humanity in all the ages. At the beginning of the third millennium, it guides us to believe and hope in God, in His Salvation and in Eternal Life. In particular, it lights the way of the Church, which is committed to the new evangelization." St. John Paul II*

*"Thou alone and Thy Mother are in all things fair; there is no flaw in Thee and no stain in Thy Mother." St. Ephrem*

*"Mary, a Virgin, not only undefiled, but a Virgin, whom Grace has made inviolate, free from every stain of sin." St. Ambrose*

**Archdiocesan Evangelization Prayer:** Holy Spirit, renew your wonders in our time, as though in a new Pentecost, and grant that this Archdiocese, united in prayer around Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and guided by St. Peter, may spread the Kingdom of the divine Savior, a Kingdom of truth, of justice, of love, and of peace. Amen. Saint Paul, our great missionary patron, pray for us!

## HOLY MASS TIMES

### Tuesday, December 6, 2022

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

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

### Thursday, December 8, 2022

Immaculate Conception of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

5:30pm Holy Mass

### Sunday, December 11, 2022

8:20am Rosary/8:25am Confessions

8:45am Holy Mass

## HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

December 6, 2022 †Helen Johnstone

December 8, 2022 Parishioners

December 11, 2022 Parishioners



## NEWS FROM SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT PAUL

(from page 1) to ‘the Son of the Most High’ without knowing man, by the power of the Holy Spirit, Mary responded with the obedience of Faith, certain that ‘with God nothing will be impossible’: ‘Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be [done] to me according to your word.’ (Luke 1:28-38; cf. Rom 1:5) Thus, giving her consent to God’s Word, Mary becomes the Mother of Jesus. Espousing the Divine Will for salvation wholeheartedly, without a single sin to restrain her, she gave herself entirely to the Person and to the work of her Son; she did so in order to serve the Mystery of Redemption with Him and dependent on Him, by God’s Grace: (Cf. Lumen Gentium 56)

As St. Irenaeus says, ‘Being obedient she became the cause of salvation for herself and for the whole human race.’ (St. Irenaeus, Adv. haeres. 3, 22, 4: PG 7/1, 959A) Hence not a few of the early Fathers gladly assert...: ‘The knot of Eve’s disobedience was untied by Mary’s obedience: what the virgin Eve bound through her disbelief, Mary loosened by her Faith.’ (St. Irenaeus, Adv. haeres. 3, 22, 4: PG 7/1, 959A) Comparing her with Eve, they call Mary ‘the Mother of the living’ and frequently claim: ‘Death through Eve, Life through Mary.’ (56; Epiphanius, Haer. 78, 18: PG 42, 728CD-729AB; St. Jerome, Ep. 22, 21: PL 22, 408) Called in the Gospels ‘the Mother of Jesus’, Mary is acclaimed by Elizabeth, at the prompting of the Spirit and even before the birth of her Son, as ‘the Mother of my Lord’. (Luke 1:43; John 2:1; 19:25; cf. Matthew 13:55; et al) In fact, the One whom she conceived as Man by the Holy Spirit, Who truly became her Son according to the flesh, was none other than the Father’s Eternal Son, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. Hence the Church confesses that Mary is truly ‘Mother of God’ (Theotokos). (Council of Ephesus (431): DS 251)” (CCC 487-495) Through the intercession of the Mary, the Immaculate Conception and Mother of God, St. Joseph, St. Michael and St. Paul, may God bless our parishes, families and the whole Church!

In Christ through Mary,  
Fr. Kasel



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### Mahn Family

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**(507) 356-4620**  
[mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com)



### Steve Johnson's



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### Parish Safe Environment

Coordinator: Sara McNamara  
St. Michael: 507-356-4280  
[stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net](mailto:stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net)  
St. Paul: 507-732-5324  
[stpauls@hcinet.net](mailto:stpauls@hcinet.net)

**St. Paul/Minneapolis Archdiocese Victim Assistance Program Hotline:**  
(651) 291-4475

### Church of St. Michael

Cemetery  
For Plot Information  
Call the Parish Office

**507-356-4280**

“Remember To Pray For Our Beloved Departed.”

### Church of St. Paul

Cemetery

For Plot Information

Call the Parish Office

**507-732-5324**

**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 register for a VIRTUS class, complete the Essential 3, or do updates.

### Retirement Fund for Religious second collection: Dec. 3-4

**Help our elderly Religious:** Thousands of elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have devoted their lives to helping others. Across the US, generations of Catholics gratefully recall their ministry in Catholic schools, hospitals, parishes, and works of mercy. Most older religious served for little pay. Today, without enough retirement savings, many religious communities are struggling to care for senior members. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide nursing care, medicine, and other necessities. Thank you for your generosity!

**Archdiocesan Synod:** Have you read Archbishop Hebda’s recent Post-Synodal Pastoral Letter to the Faithful of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis? This pastoral letter, entitled **You Will Be My Witnesses—Gathered and Sent from the Upper Room**, is the culmination of three years of the archdiocesan synod process. You can read the letter and find out more at: <https://www.archspm.org/synodletter/>

**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

### †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.