March 6, 2022 First Sunday of Lent

Father Randal Kasel, Pastor frkasel@bevcomm.net

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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 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,

The month of March is dedicated to increased devotion to St. Joseph, the Spouse of the Virgin Mary, and Foster Father of our Lord Jesus. Let us go to St. Joseph, open our hearts to his love for us and experience his great kindness! This weekend I share with you a reflection on the Dogma of the existence of the devil. I encourage you to reflect over this message a few times this week:

"The existence of the devil and his activity. The devil exists and acts in people and society. His activity is mysterious, but real and effective: Again the devil took Him to a very high mountain ... Then Jesus said to him, 'Begone, satan!' we read in the Gospel for Holy Mass. (cf. Matt 4:8-11)

The devil exists. Holy Scripture speaks of him from the first to the last of the revealed books, from Genesis to the Apocalypse (Revelation). In the parable of the wheat and the weeds, Our Lord affirms that the weeds, whose purpose is to suffocate the wheat, were sown by the enemy. (Matt. 13:25) In the parable of the sower, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown. (Matt. 13:19) Some people are inclined towards a superficial optimism and think evil is merely an incidental imperfection in a world which is continually evolving towards better days. Nevertheless the history of mankind has been adversely affected by the devil's influence. We find in our day all the features of an intense evil which cannot be explained in terms of human behavior alone. The devil, in all sorts of ways, wreaks havoc on mankind. There is no doubt that the whole of man's history has been the story of dour combat with the powers of evil, stretching, so Our Lord tells us, from the very dawn of history up to the last day. (Vatican Council II, Gaudium et Spes, 7) The devil does this in such a way that he provokes incalculable harm of a spiritual nature and, indirectly even of a physical nature, to individuals and to society. (St. John Paul II, General Audience, 13 August 1986) The devil's activity is mysterious but at the same time real and effective. From the first centuries, Christians were conscious of diabolical activity. St. Peter admonished the first Christians: Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him firm in your Faith. (1 Pet. 5:8) With Jesus Christ, the devil's dominion has been reduced, for He has freed us from the power of satan. (Vatican Council II, Sacrosanctum *Concilium*, 6) As a result of the redeeming work of Christ, the devil can only cause real harm to those who freely allow him to, by consenting to evil and separating themselves from God.

In many passages of the Gospel Our Lord shows Himself overcoming the devil, freeing many people from diabolical possession. We place our trust in Jesus, and He does not allow us to be tempted beyond our strength. (cf. 1 Cor. 10:13) The devil will try to *reduce the human spirit and lead it to violate God's precepts, little by little darkening the hearts of those who try to serve Him. This he will do to make them forsake the true God, turning to himself instead as though he were a god indeed.* (St. Irenaeus, *Adversus Haereses*, 5) He does this at all times, in a thousand different ways. But God has given us the means to overcome all temptation; nobody sins necessarily. Let us consider, in depth, during this Lent what that means. As well as this, in order to

Welcome to the Churches of



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 at10:30am

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

free us from the devil's influence, God has given us an Angel to help and protect us. *If you call upon your Guardian Angel at the moment of trial, he will protect you from the devil and will bring you holy inspirations.* (J. Escriva, *The Way*, 567)

Who the devil is. His power is limited. We need divine help in order to conquer: The devil is a personal, real and individual being, of a spiritual and indivisible nature, who separated himself from God forever by his sin, because the devil and the other demons were created naturally good by God; but they became bad of themselves. (Fourth Lateran Council, Dz. 800 [428])

He is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44), of sin, of discord, of affliction, of hatred, of all that is absurd and evil on earth. (cf. Heb. 2:14) He is the astute and envious serpent who brings death to the world (cf. Wis. 2:24), the enemy who sows evil in man's heart (cf. Matt. 13:28-39) and the only being we have to fear if we are not close to God. His sole purpose in the world, which he has never renounced, is our perdition. Every day he will try to achieve that purpose through all the means at his disposal. *It all began with his rejection of God and God's Kingdom, when he usurped his sovereign rights and tried to overturn the economy of salvation and the very ordering of creation itself. This attitude can be found reflected in the words of the tempter to our first parents: 'You will be like gods'. This is how the evil spirit endeavors to transplant into man the attitude (continued on page 3)*

The Church of St. Michael Men's Club Fish Fries 4:30—7:00pm each Friday of Lent STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT CHURCH OF ST. PAUL Each Tuesday of Lent at 7:00pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL Each Friday of Lent at 7:30pm

The next **Holy Hour for Men** will be on Sunday, March 13, at 6:30pm at the Church of St. Michael, Pl. All men are invited!

CHURCH OF SAINT MICHAEL NEWS

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL FAITH FORMATION The next Faith Formation class/session will be on Wednesday, March 9, 6:00-7:45pm at the Church of St. Michael , Pl Topic for March: The Cardinal Virtue of Justice 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.

"No one can be saved without Divine Light. Divine Light causes us to begin and to make progress, and it leads us to the summit of perfection. Therefore if you want to begin and to receive this Divine Light, pray. If you have begun to make progress and want this Light to be intensified within you, pray. And if you have reached the summit of perfection, and want to be illumined so as to remain in that state, pray.

If you want Faith, pray. If you want Hope, pray. If you want Charity, pray. If you want poverty, pray. If you want obedience, pray. If you want chastity, pray. If you want humility, pray. If you want meekness, pray. If you want fortitude, pray. If you want some virtue, pray. And pray in this fashion, namely, always reading the Book of Life, that is, the life of the God-man Jesus Christ, whose life consisted of poverty, pain, contempt, and true obedience. A soul thus exercised in cleansing itself goes with greater confidence to Confession to have its sins washed away. And so that nothing impure may remain, it puts itself to a kind of scrutiny. It enters into prayer and examines the good and evil it has done. As a result, you begin to feel the presence of God more fully than usual because your palate is more disposed to savor God's presence than before. It is through prayer, then, that one will be given the most powerful Light to see God and self." St. Angela of Foligno (* 1309) St. Angela was a wife and mother who later became a Franciscan tertiary and an esteemed mystical writer. From Angela of Foligno: Complete Works (CWS), translated with an introduction by Paul Lachance, O.F.M. © 1993 by Paul Lachance, O.F.M. Paulist Press, Inc., New York/Mahwah, NJ.

GREAT LENT (Lecture Series) Our Journey to the Resurrection, Tuesdays, March 8 & 15

"In this world nothing is as beautiful and deep, as inspired and inspiring, as that which the Church, our Mother, reveals and freely gives to us once we enter the blessed season of the 'lenten spring."" — Fr. Alexander Schmemann



Living liturgically goes beyond a mere awareness of

the Church's feasts and seasons, year in and year out—it entails a sincere effort to truly enter into the divine mysteries made present to us at each moment. Rediscover the richness of Lent with Fr. David Anderson as we explore its intrinsic connection to Easter, the "Feast of Feasts" that animates the entire liturgical life of the Church.

Pre-Class Discussion: 6:30 PM Lecture: 7:00 PM. Registration is required. To Register, visit https://instituteofcatholicculture.org/ events/great-lent

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<u>**Pine Island Food Shelf:**</u> items requested for March: Baking mixes (Pancakes, Muffins, Biscuits, Cakes)

WEEKLY TITHING for H	February 26-27, 2022
Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 2,403.00
Plate:	\$ 2,854.15
EFT:	<u>\$ 647.50</u>
Total:	\$ 5,904.65



WORDS TO LIVE BY:

"He so hated and despised sin that He avenged it on His own body with great pain, derision, torture, and reproach, His passion and death - and not for Himself (for the poison of sin was not in Him) but only as a service to us, to satisfy for our sins. He gives us back the light of Grace and relieves us of the darkness that had entered our soul because of sin." St. Catherine of Siena

"I say we have been given a guide. I mean the only-begotten Incarnate Word, God's Son, who shows us how to walk along this road that is so well lighted. He says, you know 'I am the Way and Truth and Life. Whoever walks in me walks not in darkness but in light.' He is Truth, and there is no falsehood in Him." St. Catherine of Siena "He who wishes to find Jesus should seek Him, not in the delights and pleasures of the world, but in mortification of the senses." St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori

"Let us read the lives of the saints; let us consider the penances which they performed, and blush to be so... fearful of mortifying our flesh." St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori

"Some subordinate their progress in perfection, which consists in denying their desires and likings out of love for God, to their own tastes and whims. So strong is this inclination that even if they are commanded by obedience to do something which is to their liking, they immediately lose their desire for it, and all interest in it, because their one desire is to do their own will. The saints did not act this way." St. John of the Cross

†ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT Can you spend an hour with Jesus?

Adoration is held at St. Paul, Zumbrota on Tuesdays 9am -5pm and St. Michael, Pine Island on Wednesdays from 9am-5pm.



HOLY MASS TIMES

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass 9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Friday, March 11, 2022 8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass Saturday, March 12, 2022 4:00pm-4:50pm Confessions 5:00pm Holy Mass Sunday, March 13, 2022 7:00am (Latin) Holy Mass 10:30am Holy Mass HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

March 11, 2022Christian FreemanMarch 12, 2022†Eugene Peters (family & friends)March 13, 2022(Latin) unbaptized babiesMarch 13, 2022Parishioners	•	†David Maheny
March 13, 2022 (Latin) unbaptized babies	March 11, 2022	Christian Freeman
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CHURCH OF ST. PAUL FAITH FORMATION

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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 & Benediction.

Stations of the Cross at the Church of St. Paul: Each Tuesday of Lent at 7:00pm

(from page 1) of proud rivalry, of insubordination and opposition to God that has become the motivating force of his own whole existence. (St. John Paul II, General Audience, 13 August 1986) The devil is the first cause of evil and of the disorders and ruptures which are produced in families and in society. For instance, suppose, says Cardinal Newman, a sudden darkness were to fall upon the streets of a crowded city in day-time, you may fancy without my telling you what a noise and clamor there would be, foot passengers, carriages, carts, horses all being mixed together. Such is the state of the world. The evil spirit, which worketh in the children of disbelief, the god of this world, as St. Paul says, has blinded the eyes of them that believe not, and hence they are obliged to wrangle and debate, for they have lost their way; and they fall out with each other and one says this and one says that, because they do not see. (Cardinal J. Newman, Sermon for the Second Sunday of Lent - The World and Sin) In his temptations the devil has recourse to deceit, because he can present only a false good and a fictitious happiness, which inevitably turn into loneliness and bitterness. Outside of God true good or happiness do not exist; they cannot exist. Outside of God there is only darkness, emptiness and endless misery. But the devil's power is limited, and is also under the dominion and sovereignty of God, Who is the only Lord of the Universe.

The devil - and our angels - cannot penetrate our innermost thoughts if we do not want them to. The unclean spirits cannot know the nature of our thoughts, they can only conjecture at them from an outwardly perceptible indications, or else by examining our dispositions, our words or the things they notice that we tend towards. On the other hand, what we have not chosen to exteriorize so that it remains hidden within our souls, is totally inaccessible to them. Even the very thoughts that they suggest to us, the reception we give them, the reaction they cause within us... they cannot know any of this because of the very essence of our soul... except, in every case, through our movements and external manifestations. (Cassian, Conferences, 7) The devil is unable to violate our liberty so as to incline it towards evil. It is a certain fact that the devil cannot seduce anybody if he does not freely give to the devil the consent of his will. (ibid.) The holy Cure d'Ars says that the devil is a great chained dog which puts people to flight, which makes a great noise, but which only bites those who come too close. (St. Jean Vianney, [The Cure d'Ars], Sermon on Temptations) To sum up: No human power can be compared to his; only God's power can vanquish him and only God's light can unmask the snares that he lays. The soul that would overcome the power of the devil will not be able to do so without prayer, nor will it recognize his deceitful traps without the aid of mortification and humility. (St. John of the Cross, The Spiritual Canticle, 3, 9) Jesus Christ vanquishes the devil. Trust in Christ. Means that we have to use. Holy Water: Jesus' life was summarized in the Acts of the Apostles in the words, He went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil. (Acts 10:39) And St. John, speaking about the cause of the Incarnation, explains, The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. (1 John 3:8)

Christ is the true victor over the devil: Now shall the ruler of this world be cast out (John 12:31), Jesus will say at the Last Supper, a few hours before His Passion. God decided (continued on page 4)

WEEKLY TITHING for February 27, 2022

Total:	<u>\$</u>	1,470.00
Plate:	\$	610.00
Sunday Envelopes:	\$	860.00

St. Patrick's Ham Dinner at the Zumbrota VFW

March 27 at the Zumbrota VFW

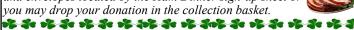
serving from 10:30am -1:00pm.

Prices:

Adults or Take Out \$12.00, Children 6-12--\$6.00, Under 6 -free Available for Dine-In & Take Out

Please take time to sign up for donations and also to volunteer your time for the event. The sign-up board is at the entrance of the Church. You may also email at <u>stpauls@hcinet.net</u> or call the Parish Office 732-5324 to sign up.

For those who wish to give a cash donation, there is a box and envelopes located by the Ham Dinner sign-up sheet or you may drop your donation in the collection basket.



PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED at Rochester Planned Parenthood. March 7, 14, 21, 28, & April 4.

40 Days for Life has started and will continue until April 10. Rochester does not have a campaign this year, but please consider praying on Mondays at Planned Parenthood, as that is when the chemical abortion pill is given. Planned Parenthood is open Mondays from 10-5:30. There are no designated prayer times. Bring a friend and stop by to pray whenever it works for you. Contact Maggie at <u>maggieeggerichs@hotmail.com</u> or the parish office with questions.

Zumbrota Food Shelf Assistance: The Zumbrota Area Food Shelf will participate in the Minnesota March Food Share Campaign. For more than three decades, the March Campaign has been making a major difference in relieving hunger throughout the state. The annual effort raises money and food to stock nearly 300 food shelves in MN. The contributions from this annual effort, which brings together families, companies, faith communities, schools, and civic groups, raises so much of the food distributed each year by those food shelves. Thank you to all who have graciously donated in the past. This has been a year of many different circumstances and all food and monetary donations have been greatly appreciated. This helpful community is what makes our food shelf continue to be able to serve the people. All food and monetary donations given to the Zumbrota Area Food Shelf stays and is used locally. Our food shelf service area includes Zumbrota, Wanamingo, Bellechester, and Goodhue.

Throughout the month of March, giving food or money to the local food shelf is the perfect way to help people who are in need. Please consider helping out. Donations can be mailed to Zumbrota Area Food Shelf, PO Box 43, Zumbrota, MN 55992. Volunteers will be available at the food shelf every Monday during the month of March from 8-10am for donations.

HOLY MASS TIMES

Tuesday, I	March 8, 2022
8:00am	Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass
9:00am-	5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday,	March 10, 2022
8:00am	Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass
Sunday, M	larch 13, 2022
8:20am	Rosary/8:25am Confessions
8:45am	Holy Mass - On 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of the month
	versus populum; 2nd & 4th ad Orientem

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

March 8, 2022†Roy & Gloria BradleyMarch 10, 2022Josefina Meyer (Sara McNamara)March 13, 2022Parishioners



NEWS FROM SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT PAUL

(from page 3) to enter into the history of mankind in a new and definitive manner by sending His own Son in human flesh, so that through Him He might snatch men from the power of darkness and of satan (cf. Col. 1:3, Acts 10:38). (Vatican Council II, Ad Gentes, 3)

Nevertheless, the devil continues to retain a certain power over the world, in so far as men reject the fruits of the Redemption. He has dominion over those who in one way or another voluntarily surrender themselves to him, preferring the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of Grace. (cf. St. John Paul II, *loc. cit.*) This is why we should not be surprised if we often see evil apparently triumph and justice cruelly wronged here and there.

It should give us great confidence to know that Our Lord has left us many means by which to conquer and to live in this world with the peace and joy of a good Christian. Amongst these means are prayer, mortification, the frequent reception of Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Penance, and love for Our Lady. We are always safe in Our Lady's company.

The use of Holy Water is also an effective means of protection against the devil's influence. You ask me why I always recommend, with such insistence, the daily use of Holy Water. I could give you many reasons. But there could be none better that that of the Saint of Avila: 'From nothing do evil spirits flee more precipitately, never to return, than from Holy Water'. (J. Escriva, The Way, 572)

St. John Paul II exhorts us, when we pray, to think more about what we say in the last petition of the Our Father; *Lead us not into temptation*. Deliver us from Evil - from the Evil One. Do not let us give in, Lord, to the infidelity towards which the one who has been unfaithful right from the beginning entices us. (St. John Paul II, loc. cit.) The best way we have of showing that we want to replace the non serviam of the devil with our personal Serviam: I will serve Y ou, Lord, is by making a special effort this Lent to improve in our faithfulness to what we know

Kitui Living Water Program- Lent 2022 Give Change...Change Lives

Water bottles are available to support our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Kitui, Kenya through raising funds for water preservation. Each time you turn your



faucet on to take a drink of water, remember there are people who are gravely suffering due to a lack of water. You can return the bottles with a donation at any time before Easter. If you have questions regarding the Kitui Partnership, contact either parish office.

PRO LIFE QUOTE:

"Find the courage to proclaim Christ,... and the unchanging truths which have their foundation in Him. These are the truths that set us free! They are the truths which alone can guarantee respect for the inalienable dignity and rights of each man, woman and child in our world - including the most defenseless of all human beings, the unborn child in the mother's womb. *Pope Benedict XVI, at Yankee Stadium, April 20, 2008*

"Some people argue that changing laws will not eliminate abortions. It is certainly true that a change of heart is more important than a change of law. What is forgotten, however, is that the law is the great teacher. Children grow up believing that if a practice is legal, it must be moral."-- John Cardinal O'Connor

God wants of us." (From *In Conversation with God*, by Francis Fernandez)

Through the intercession of Mary, Our Lady of Victory, St. Joseph, the Terror of demons, St. Michael, St. Paul, and our Guardian Angels, may our good Lord grant us the victory over every temptation from the devil!

In Christ through Mary, Fr. Kasel



(651) 291-4475