

September 5, 2021
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Father Randal Kasel, Pastor frkasel@bevcomm.net

Josefina Meyer & Sara McNamara, Staff

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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 September is dedicated to devotion to the Seven Sorrows of the Virgin Mary. Let us console the heart of our Blessed Mother through this devotion! This Sunday I share with you a meditation on listening to God. I encourage you to reflect over this message a few times this week:

“Listening to God and speaking to Him - The miraculous cure of a deaf mute: The liturgy of this Sunday’s Holy Mass is a call to hope and absolute confidence in the Lord. In a moment of darkness the prophet Isaiah lifts up his voice to comfort the Chosen People who live in exile. (Is. 35:4-7) He announces the happy return to their homeland: *Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God; He comes with vindication; with divine recompense He comes to save you.* And the prophet predicts wonders which will have their complete fulfillment with the coming of the Messiah: *Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ear of the deaf be unstopped; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the dumb will sing. Streams will burst forth in the desert, and rivers in the dry land. The burning sands will become pools, and the thirsty ground springs of water.* With Christ, all mankind is healed, and the inexhaustible springs of grace convert the world into a new creation. The Lord has transformed everything, and especially men’s souls.

The Gospel of the Holy Mass narrates the cure of a deaf-mute. (Mark 7:31-37) The Lord brought him apart, placed His fingers in his ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Afterwards, Jesus raised His eyes to Heaven and said to him, ‘Ephpheta!’ (that is, ‘Be opened!’) *At once the man’s ears were opened; he was freed from the impediment, and began to speak plainly.*

The fingers can signify a powerful Divine action (cf. Ex. 8:19; Cant. 8:4; Luke 11:20), and saliva is thought to have a certain ability to heal wounds. Although it is the words of Christ that work the cure, He wished, as on other occasions, to use visible, material objects which in some way were intended to express the more profound action the Sacraments were later going to work in souls. (cf. M. Schmaus, *Dogmatic Theology*, VI, *The Sacraments*) Already in the first centuries, and throughout many generations (cf. A. G. Martimort, *The Church at Prayer*, Barcelona), the Church used these same gestures of the Lord at the moment of Baptism, while she prayed over the one to be baptized: *May the Lord Jesus, Who made the deaf hear and the dumb speak, grant that at the proper time you may hear His Word and proclaim the Faith.* (cf. *Ritual of Baptism*, Baptism of infants)

We can see in this cure which our Lord performs an image of His acting in souls: He frees man from sin, He opens his ears to hear the Word of God and loosens his tongue to praise and proclaim the marvelous works of God. At the moment of Baptism, the Holy Spirit, *digitus paternae dexteræ* (cf. Hymn, *Veni Creator*), the fin-

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 8:25am, 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

ger of the right hand of God the Father, as the liturgy proclaims, freed our hearing to listen to the Word of God, and unloosed our tongue in order to announce it throughout the world; and this is continued during our whole life. St. Augustine, in commenting on this passage of the Gospel, says that the tongue of someone united to God *will speak of the Good, will bring to agreement those who are divided, will console those who weep. God will be praised, Christ will be announced.* (St. Augustine, *Sermon 311*, 11) These things we will do if we have our hearing attentive to the continuous inspirations of the Holy Spirit and if we have our tongue ready to speak of God, uninhibited by human respect.

We should not be deaf in the presence of religious ignorance:

There is a deafness of soul which is worse than that of the body, since no one is more deaf than he who does not want to hear. There are many who have their ears closed to the Word of God, and many, too, who become more and more insensitive to the innumerable invitations of Grace. An apostolate which is patient, tenacious, full of understanding, accompanied by prayer, will make many of our friends hear the voice of God and be themselves converted into new apostles who will speak of Him everywhere. This is one of the missions which we receive in Baptism. (cf. Second Vatican Council, *Lumen Gentium*, 33)

We Christians cannot remain dumb when we must speak of God and transmit His message openly: parents to their children, teaching them their prayers and the basics of their Faith from their infancy; a friend to his friend, when the opportune moment presents itself, and even making it arise if necessary; (continued on page 3)

The next **Holy Hour for Men** will be on Sunday, September 12, at 6:30pm at the Church of St. Michael, PI. All men are invited!

CHURCH OF SAINT MICHAEL NEWS



What to expect at the Synod small groups this Fall

We hope you join in this important step in shaping the future of our Archdiocese. Here's how it will go.

- +Arrive at the parish and find a seat at a table of about 8.
 - +Watch a video which will lead everyone in prayer and share teaching on our beautiful Catholic faith to inform our discussion and response.
 - +As you are comfortable, share your experience and ideas in discussion with your tablemates.
 - +Respond to ideas and offer your own suggestions on a feedback form to be considered by Archbishop Hebda.
- Mark your calendar for six Sundays beginning Sunday, September 26 at the Church of St. Michael. Please contact any member of the Synod core group of St. Michael if you have questions: Rob & Susan Bestgen, Brian & Katie Brost, Ted & Sarah Bauer, Ron & Paula Breid, Carol Berns, Barb Keehn, Lynn Kemmetmueller, Josefina Meyer, and Fr. Kasel.

Baskets/Items for the Fall Festival Silent Auction

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 items at the parish office before Sept. 16. *Thank you for your generosity!*



From a discourse by St. Andrew of Crete on the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary:

"The fulfillment of the law is Christ Himself, who does not so much lead us away from the letter as lift us up to its spirit. For the law's consummation was this, that the very lawgiver accomplished His work and changed letter into spirit, summing everything up in Himself and, though subject to the law, living by Grace. He subordinated the law, yet harmoniously united Grace with it, not confusing the distinctive characteristics of the one with the other, but effecting the transition in a way most fitting for God. He changed whatever was burdensome, servile and oppressive not what is light and liberating, so that we should be enslaved no longer *under the elemental spirits of the world*, as the Apostle says, nor held fast as bondservants under the letter of the law.

This is the highest, all-embracing benefit that Christ has bestowed on us. This is the revelation of the mystery, this is the emptying out of the Divine Nature, the union of God and man, and the Deification of the manhood that was assumed. This radiant and manifest coming of God to men most certainly needed a joyful prelude to introduce the great gift of salvation to us. The present festival, the birth of the Mother of God, is the prelude, while the final act is the fore-ordained union of the Word with flesh. Today the Virgin is born, tended and formed and prepared for her role as Mother of God, who is the universal King of the ages.

Justly, then, do we celebrate this mystery since it signifies for us a double Grace. We are led towards the Truth, and we are led away from our condition of slavery to the letter of the law. How can this be? Darkness yields before the coming of the light, and Grace exchanges legalism for freedom. But midway between the two stands today's mystery, at the frontier where types and symbols give way to reality, and the old is replaced by the new. Therefore, let all creation sing and dance and unite to make worthy contribution to the celebration of this day. Let there be one common festival for saints in Heaven and men on earth. Let everything, mundane things and those above, join in festive celebration. Today this created world is raised to the dignity of a holy place for Him who made all things. The creature is newly prepared to be a Divine dwelling place for the Creator."

Pine Island Food Shelf: items requested for September: Boxed Potatoes & Stuffing Mixes.

WEEKLY TITHING for August 28-29, 2021

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 6,311.00
Plate:	\$ 721.00
EFT:	\$ 607.50
Total:	\$ 7,639.50

You are invited to the FALL FESTIVAL!

SEPTEMBER 17, 18, & 19, 2021

All are invited to the Church of St. Michael Fall Festival—September 17, 18, & 19!

Highlights for this year include:

- +Our fabulous **St. Michael Fish Fry** on Friday evening from 4pm – 8:30pm. Prices: \$11 Adults, \$5 Children (6-12 years), 5 years and under free, and \$35 family max.
- +The **Antique Tractor Pull** on Saturday from 10AM to 3PM, conducted by the local Southeast Minnesota Tractor Pullers. No charge to attend - just come watch! Bring your lawn chair.
- +A **Concession Stand**, offering pork chop on a stick, pork chop sandwiches, BBQs, Hot dogs, chips, ice cream treats and water/pop all day Saturday and Sunday.
- +The **Antique Tractor Show** on Sunday. Check our display of local antique tractors.
- +**Arts and Crafts vendors** on Friday evening through Sunday. (If you are interested in a site for crafts you make, it is only \$25 for the weekend—contact the parish office at stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net.)
- +The **Kiddie Pedal Tractor Pull and Kids Games** on Sunday.
- +**Free Bingo** on Saturday and Sunday!

Music Entertainment: Musicians are needed to perform for guests on Saturday and Sunday of our Fall Festival. Do you have a musician or two in the family? Piano, guitar, violin, accordion, bagpipes, trumpet, flute, clarinet ...Solos, duets, ensembles...the options are endless. Please contact the Parish office at 507-356-4280 if you have questions.

PRO LIFE QUOTE

"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!" *Saint Pope John Paul II*

HOLY MASS TIMES

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

- 9:00am Holy Mass (note time change)
- 9:35am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, September 10, 2021

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

Saturday, September 11, 2021

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

Sunday, September 12, 2021

- 7:00am Extraordinary Form Holy Mass
- 10:30am Holy Mass

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

September 8, 2021	†Zane Kenig (Carolyn Ocariz)
September 10, 2021	Jacob Deen
September 11, 2021	Genevieve Kearney (Pichotta Family)
September 12, 2021 (EF)	Joyce Melquist
September 12, 2021	Parishioners



CHURCH OF SAINT PAUL NEWS

(from page 1) an office worker to his colleagues, offering them, by his word and example, a cheerful model to imitate; the student at the university, among those with whom he spends so many hours. We cannot remain silent during the countless opportunities the Lord places before us, in which we can show to everyone the path of sanctity in the middle of the world. There are even moments in which it would be unnatural for a good Christian not to say something supernatural: the death of a loved one, a visit to a sick person (what broad horizons can be opened to those who suffer, if we ask them to offer their discomfort for some intention, for the Church or the Pope!), the conversation that touches upon some slanderous story in the news... what opportunities to give good doctrine! People expect it of us and we cannot defraud them by remaining silent. There are many reasons to speak of the beauty of our Faith, of the incomparable joy of having Christ. And, among others, there is the responsibility given in Baptism not to let anyone lose the Faith through the avalanche of ideas and doctrinal errors that leaves many defenseless. *The enemies of God and of His Church, manipulated by the devil's unrelenting hatred, are relentless in their activities and organization. With 'exemplary' constancy they prepare their cadres, run their schools, appoint leaders and deploy agitators. In an undercover way - but very effectively - they spread their ideas and sow, in homes and places of work, a seed that is deliberately destructive of religion. What is there that we Christians should not be ready to do in order to serve our God, of course always with the Truth?* (J. Escriva, *The Forge*, 466) Are we perhaps content to remain passive? The mission we received on the day of our Baptism must be put into practice all our life, in all circumstances.

Speak with clarity and simplicity; this holds true, too, in spiritual direction: As announced by the prophet Isaiah in the *First Reading*, the moment has arrived in which *the eyes of the blind will be opened, the ears of the deaf be unstopped; the lame will leap like the stag, the tongue of the dumb will sing...* These wonders are accomplished in our time in a way immensely more profound than that envisioned by the prophet; they take place in the soul docile to the Holy Spirit, Who has been sent by the Lord. We ask for the Faith and for daring to announce clearly and openly the *magnolia Dei* (cf. Acts 2:1), the marvelous works of God we see around us, just as the Apostles did after Pentecost. St. Augustine advises us: *If you love God, draw to you all those who gather around or live in your house, so that all will come to love Him. If you love the Body of Christ, which is the unity of the Church, impel everyone to rejoice in God and tell them with David: 'Magnify with me the Lord, and let us together praise His Holy Name' (Prov. 21:28); and in this do not be calculating or stingy, but rather win for the Lord all those you can by whatever means possible, according to your abilities: exhorting them, bearing them up, pleading with them, arguing with them and giving them the reasons for the things of Faith, with all gentleness and tact.* (St. Augustine, *Commentary on the Psalms*, 33:6-7) May we not remain silent when God wants to say so much through our words.

St. Mark has preserved the Aramaic word used by our Lord, 'Ephpheta' - *be opened*. Many times has the Holy Spirit made us aware, in different ways, of this imperative counsel in the depths of our soul. Our mouth has had to be opened and our tongue loosed in order to speak about the state of our own soul with clarity, being very sincere, explaining with simplicity what has occurred in our lives, our desires for holiness and the temptations of the enemy, our little victories and our setbacks, if there have been any. Our hearing has had to be cleared in order that we may be attentive to the many lessons and suggestions granted to us by the Master in spiritual direction. (cf. R. Garrigou-Lagrange, *The Three Ages of the Interior Life*, I, p. 295 etc.)

The difficult battle, if it is fought by one who is armed with sincerity and docility, will always be won; engaged in by someone equipped with deceit, in isolation, and with pride in his own opinion, it will invariably be lost. It is the Lord who cures and Who chooses the means He will use - means that will always be (continued on page 4)

WEEKLY TITHING for August 29, 2021

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 1,235.00
Plate:	\$ 573.00
Total:	\$ 1,808.00

What to expect at the Synod small groups this Fall

We hope you join in this important step in shaping the future of our Archdiocese. Here's how it will go.

+Arrive at the parish and find a seat at a table of about 8.
+Watch a video which will lead everyone in prayer and share teaching on our beautiful Catholic faith to inform our discussion and response.

+As you are comfortable, share your experience and ideas in discussion with your tablemates.

+Respond to ideas and offer your own suggestions on a feedback form to be considered by Archbishop Hebda.

Mark your calendar for six Sundays beginning Sunday, September 26 at the Church of St. Paul.

Please contact any member of the Synod core group of St. Paul: Byron & Barb Boraas, Gary & Louise Gerken, Randy & Shirley Gregory, Maggie Eggerichs, Josefina Meyer, and Fr. Kasel.



Church of St. Paul CCW Meeting: The next CCW meeting will be Tuesday, September 21, at the Church of St. Paul. Holy Mass will be at 6 pm, with the meeting to follow at 6:30 pm.

2021 CCW Salad Luncheon report:

Income:	Donations:	\$ 115.00
	Tickets:	\$ 1,229.00
Expense:		\$ 157.43
	Net Income:	\$ 1,186.57

Thank you for your help to make the 2021 CCW Salad Luncheon a success!

Cuppa Joe: 10 Talks on the 10 Wonders of Saint Joseph

First Tuesday of the month (through December 2021) at 4 pm:

Cuppa Joe is a series of 10 talks on the 10 wonders of St. Joseph, taking place at 10 locations in our archdiocese entrusted to the patronage of our spiritual father. These talks come just in time for your afternoon coffee. **The next talk is Tuesday, September 7.** Join Liz Kelly virtually as she explores this amazing saint in his title as Adorer of Christ, hosted by Saint Joseph, Waconia. All talks are posted on Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram – and at archspm.org/cuppajoe.

Fall Festival at St. Mary of the Lake, Lake City on Sunday, September 12th, from 11:00am—2:00pm. Highlights are a Chicken Dinner, farmer market, bake sale, silent auction, raffle, and kid's games. Dinner -Adults: \$11/13 and children 10 & under \$6.

HOLY MASS TIMES

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

7:00am Holy Mass (note time change)
7:35am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, September 9, 2021

7:00am Holy Mass (note time change)

Sunday, September 12, 2021

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

September 7, 2021 †John Perra

September 9, 2021 †Walter & Lorraine Grawey

September 12, 2021 Parishioners



NEWS FROM SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT PAUL

(from page 3) disproportionate. St. Vincent Ferrer affirmed that God never gives His grace to one who, having available to him someone capable of instructing and directing him, chooses to despise this most efficacious means of sanctification, believing that he is sufficient unto himself and that by his efforts alone he can seek and find what is necessary for salvation... Another who, having a director, elects to obey him without reserve and in everything, will arrive more easily than he would do if alone, although he might well possess a keen intelligence and have at hand knowledgeable books on spiritual matters... (St. Vincent Ferrer, *Treatise on the Spiritual Life*, II, 1)

In the Most Blessed Virgin we find the perfect model of one who listens with attentive ear to what God is asking, in order to put it into practice from a standpoint of complete availability. Indeed, at the Annunciation Mary entrusted herself to God completely, with 'full submission of intellect and will' (*Dei Verbum*, 5), manifesting 'the obedience of Faith' to Him Who spoke to her through His messenger. (St. John Paul II, *Encyclical, Redemptoris Mater*, 25 March 1987, 13) We go to her, in finishing our prayer, asking her to teach us how to listen attentively to everything that comes from God, and to put it into practice." (From: *In Conversation with God* by Francis Fernandez)

Through the intercession of Our Mother of Sorrows, St. Joseph, St. Michael and St. Paul, may God grant us the Grace to hear and listen to His Voice!

In Christ through Mary,
Fr. Kasel

Synod Prayer: Come Holy Spirit, make our ears to hear, make our eyes to see, make our mouths to speak, make our hearts to seek. Make our hands to reach out and touch the world with Your love. Amen. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. Amen.

Have you invited someone to become Catholic recently? If you know someone who would like to become Catholic, please contact Father Kasel at Church of St Michael 507-356-4280 or Church of St Paul 507-732-5324. Let us pray for those souls God is calling to join us in our Catholic Church!



Happy Birthday, Blessed Mother!
September 8, Nativity of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

WORDS TO LIVE BY:

"God speaks in the silence of the heart. Listening is the beginning of prayer." *St. Teresa of Calcutta*

"Remember this. When people choose to withdraw far from a fire, the fire continues to give warmth, but they grow cold. When people choose to withdraw far from light, the light continues to be bright in itself, but they are in darkness. This is also the case when people withdraw from God." *St. Augustine*

"In prayer, more is accomplished by listening than by talking. Let us leave to God the decisions as to what shall be said." *St. Francis de Sales*

"If you are not a man of prayer, I don't believe in the sincerity of your intentions when you say that you work for Christ." *St. Jose Maria Escriva*

 <p>Buy one Blizzard at regular price, receive 2nd Blizzard of equal/lesser value FREE! 215 E. 18th St. Zumbrota 732-5910</p>	<p>Pine Haven Community Pine Haven Care Center: skilled nursing care, private rooms, rehabilitation & therapy services. Evergreen Place: senior housing with services.</p>  <p>210 3rd St NW • Pine Island • (507) 356-8304 www.PineHavenCommunity.org</p>	 <p>Hub Food Center 228 West Ave. Zumbrota 507-732-7329 https://www.nilssensfoods.com</p>	<p>Steve Johnson's  Hwy 52 & 58 in Zumbrota 507-732-5127 Home: 651-460-6706 www.zumbrotaford.com</p>	<p>ZUMBROTA MINI STORAGE Lighting—Paved 24 Hour Access 1550 Jefferson Drive, Zumbrota 507-696-4406</p>
 <p>TOM & SCOTT SHANE Commercial & Industrial 507-824-2191</p>	<p>Knollwood Apartments Located next door to the Church of St. Michael Walk to Sunday Mass! Call for more information (507)-356-8448</p>	<p>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 www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com</p>	<p>HEMANN, GROVER & Company Ltd. Certified Public Accountants "Building & managing wealth for your business & family" Glen P. Hemann, CPA ghemann@zumbrotaacpa.com 404 Main St. S. Zumbrota 732-7800</p>	<p>Owen Locker Plant</p>  <p>110 2nd St. NE Pine Island, MN 55963 507-356-8612</p>
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<p>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.</p>	<p>Parish Safe Environment Coordinator: Sara McNamara St. Michael: 507-356-4280 stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net et St. Paul: 507-732-5324 stpauls@hcinet.net</p>	<p>Church of St. Michael Cemetery For Plot Information Call the Parish Office 507-356-4280 <i>"Remember To Pray For Our Beloved Departed."</i></p>	<p>Church of St. Paul Cemetery For Plot Information Call the Parish Office 507-732-5324</p>	