# December 12, 2021 Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)

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

Josefina Meyer & Sara McNamara, Staff

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

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Website: http://www.stpaulstmichael.com BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE All articles for the bulletin are due by noon on

Wednesday. Please e-mail Saint Paul articles to stpauls@hcinet.net and Saint Michael articles to stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net. The business office reserves the right to edit articles as time and space allows.

## From Father Kasel

Praised be Jesus Christ through Mary!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

During this month of December, the month dedicated to the Immaculate Conception and the Infancy of Jesus, let us pray for the grace our hearts need to be prepared for the gifts of Grace our Lord wills to give each of us! This Sunday we celebrate the 3rd Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday. I share with you a reflection on 'Who' Jesus is for us! I encourage you to reflect over this message a few times this week:

"'Who' Jesus Is - Jesus, the Only-Begotten Son of the Father: You are My Son: today I have begotten You (Ps. 2:1), we read in the Entrance Antiphon for Christmas Midnight Holy Mass, words from the second Psalm. The advent 'today' speaks of eternity, the 'today' of the Blessed and Glorious Trinity. (St. John Paul II, General Audience, 16 October 1985)

During His public life Jesus frequently spoke of the Fatherhood of God in relation to men, using the numerous expressions found in the Old Testament. However, for Jesus, God is not merely 'the Father of Israel, the Father of mankind', but 'My Father'! 'My': precisely because of this the Jews wished to kill Jesus, for 'He called God His Father' (John 5:18). 'His' in a very literal sense: He Whom only the Son knows as Father and by Whom alone He is reciprocally known... 'My Father' is the Father of Jesus Christ: the origin of His being, of His messianic mission, of His teaching. (ibid., 23 October 1985) When, in the district of Caesarea Philippi, Simon Peter confesses: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God, Jesus answers, Blessed are you...for flesh and blood have not revealed this to you, but My Father... (Matt. 16:16-17) for no one knows the Son except the Father just as no one knows the Father except the Son. (Matt. 11:27) Only the Son can make the Father known: the visible Son enables us to see the invisible Father. He who has seen Me has seen the Father. (John 14:9) The Baby Who will be born in Bethlehem is the only-begotten Son of God, consubstantial with the Father, eternal, having His own Divine Nature and also the human nature which He has assumed in Mary's virginal Womb. When we look at Him this Christmas and see Him helpless in the arms of His Mother, we must not forget that this is God, made Man for love of us, every single one of us.

During these days when we read with profound wonder the words of the Gospel - and dwelt among us, or when we say the Angelus, we shall have a good opportunity for making a deep and grateful act of Faith, and for adoring the sacred Humanity of Our Lord.

Perfect God and perfect Man. He became a Child so that we could go to Him without fear. Special relationships with Jesus:

Jesus came to us from the Father, but He was born for us of a woman: when the time had fully come God sent forth His Son, born of woman (Gal. 4:4), says St. Paul. The prophets announce that the Messiah will come down from Heaven like rain and grow from the earth like a seed. (Is. 44:8) He will be *mighty God* and, at the same time, a Child, a Son. (Is. 9:6) I am from above (John 8:23), Jesus says of Himself, at the same time He is born from the seed of David (Rom. 1:4): there shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse and a branch shall grow out of his roots. (Is. 11:1) He will be born on earth, on this

In the Gospel for the Holy Mass of Christmas Eve we read the human genealogy of Jesus. (Matt. 1:1-25) The Holy Spirit wants to show us

# 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

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

how the Messiah is related to one family and one people, and through them to the whole of humanity. In her womb, Mary shared her own blood with Jesus, the blood of Adam, of Phares, of Solomon. The Word of God became flesh and dwelt amongst us (John 1:14); He became man, but that does not mean that He stopped being God. Jesus Christ is perfect Man and perfect God.

When, after His Resurrection, Our Lord miraculously entered through closed doors and appeared so inexplicably, (continued on page 3)

#### We invite you to worship our Savior with us this Advent and Christmas Season!

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

Tuesday, December 14 St. Paul, Zumbrota 4:00-4:55 pm Saturday, December 18 St. Michael, Pine Island 4:00-4:55 pm Tuesday, December 21 St. Paul, Zumbrota 4:00-4:55 pm Tuesday, December 21 St. Paul, Zumbrota 6:30-8:00 pm Thursday, December 23 St. Michael, Pine Island 6:30-8:00 pm Friday, December 24 St. Michael, Pine Island 10:30am-noon

\*\*The Sacrament of Confession is also offered before each weekday Holy Mass Holy Mass on Christmas Eve: Due to COVID-19, Archbishop Hebda has granted pastors permission to begin Christmas Eve Holy Mass as early as 2pm this year.

Friday, December 24 St. Paul, Zumbrota 3:00 pm St. Michael, Pine Island 4:30 pm

## Holy Mass on Christmas Day:

Friday, December 24

Saturday, December 25 St. Michael, Pine Island 7:00 am (Latin) Saturday, December 25 St. Paul, Zumbrota 8:45 am Saturday, December 25 St. Michael, Pine Island 10:30 am (No evening Holy Mass for Sunday Obligation on December 25.)

The next Holy Hour for Men will be on Sunday, December 12 at 6:30pm at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island. Fr. Kasel will give a talk on 'Lessons from the message and tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe'. 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, January 5, at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island. 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

All has been blessed through Mary- From a sermon by St. Anselm, Bishop "Blessed Lady, sky and stars, earth and rivers, day and night - everything that is subject to the power or use of man - rejoice that through you they are in some sense restored to their lost beauty and are endowed with inexpressible new Grace. All creatures were dead, as it were, useless for men or for the praise of God, Who made them. The world, contrary to its true destiny, was corrupted and tainted by the acts of men who served idols. Now all creation has been restored to life and rejoices that it is controlled and given splendor by men who believe in God.

The universe rejoices with new and indefinable loveliness. Not only does it feel the unseen presence of God Himself, its Creator, it sees Him openly, working and making it holy. These great blessings spring from the blessed Fruit of Mary's Womb.

Through the fullness of the Grace that was given you, dead things rejoice in their freedom, and those in Heaven are glad to be made new. Through the Son Who was the glorious Fruit of your Virgin Womb, just souls who died before His life-giving death rejoice as they are freed from captivity, and the Angels are glad at the restoration of their shattered domain.

Lady, full and overflowing with Grace, all creation receives new life from your abundance. Virgin, blessed above all creatures, through your blessing all creation is blessed, not only creation from its Creator, but the Creator Himself has been blessed by creation.

To Mary God gave His only-begotten Son, whom He loved as Himself. Through Mary God made Himself a Son, not different but the same, by nature Son of God and Son of Mary. The whole universe was created by God, and God was born of Mary. God created all things, and Mary gave birth to God. The God who made all things gave Himself form through Mary, and thus He made His own creation. He who could create all things from nothing would not remake His ruined creation without Mary.

God, then, is the Father of the created world and Mary the Mother of the re-created world. God is the Father by whom all things were given life, and Mary the Mother through whom all things were given new life. For God begot the Son, through whom all things were made, and Mary gave birth to Him as the Savior of the world. Without God's Son, nothing could exist; without Mary's Son, nothing could be redeemed. Truly the Lord is with you, to whom the Lord granted that all nature should owe as much to you as to Himself."

#### Thank You For The Generous Support

The Saint Padre Pio Knights of Columbus want to thank everyone for their generosity in financially supporting the Knights through the pancake breakfast. Thanks to your support, our council is donating \$500 to First Choice Clinic, which is of pro-life center located in Cannon Falls.

March For Life on January 22 - Knights of Columbus

Saint Padre Pio Council invites all parishioners to participate in the March for Life on January 22, 2022 at the State Capitol Building in Saint Paul. The March for Life occurs every year on the anniversary of the disastrous Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. A prayer service will be held at the Cathedral starting at 10:30am, with the march beginning at noon. Please join us in praying to end abortion. More details concerning carpooling and the day's events to be forthcoming.

Historic Church of St. Rose Candle Lighting Ceremony: All are invited to attend the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony at the Church of St. Rose (8778 Cty Hwy 11 Blvd, Kenyon, MN 55946) on Sunday, December 19, at 2:00pm. Music will be provided by Brass Etc. and a reception will follow at the Palof residence. More information about the Church of St. Rose can be found at www.friendsofstrose.org

Pine Island Food Shelf: items requested for December: Canned Tuna and Chicken

#### WEEKLY TITHING for December 4-5, 2021

Sunday Envelopes: \$ 4,251.00 1,012.01 Plate: 1,692.50 EFT: 6,955.51 Total:

Cemetery Collection \$ 1,073.00

#### Thank You!

The St. Gianna Molla Guild and Fr. Kasel wish to thank everyone who contributed in any way to our annual Holiday Tea! It was a joyous event and gave us an opportunity to showcase our parish to the Pine Island community. We were pleased to be able to offer a new variety of raffle items, baked goods - including pies, and handmade crafts this year! It was a blessing to usher in the Advent season with musicians from the Pine Island High School. Your generosity enables us to assist and support many worthwhile projects, charities, and help those who are in need. Thank you again for joining us, and we look forward to this event in 2022!

#### Congratulations to the Holiday Tea Raffle winners:

Minnesota Quilt: Michael Ring Seasonal Basket: Barbara Tauzell Nativity Set: Christine Kneeland Sweet Basket: Diane Borgschatz

St. James Hotel gift card: Darlene Pike

**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, <u>Dec. 12</u>. If you miss this deadline, please drop off donation at the Church office by Dec. 15. 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!

#### Pine Island Panther Helpers at Christmas time:

This year the Pine Island Community Ed is sponsoring "Panther Holiday Helpers" to help Pine Island families in need at Christmas time. Our St. Gianna Guild is participating in this program and invites all parishioners to consider taking a tag (or more) off the board in the church entrance. Each tag gives you a family member, along with a suggested gift.

Please sign up for the tag(s) you take on the sheet so we can track gifts to be returned. Please record your name and phone number for the tag(s) you take. Gifts can be wrapped, unwrapped, or wrapping paper provided. Be sure to attach the tag to the gift/package to identify the person getting the gift. Please return to the church by December 14<sup>th</sup> or to the Pine Island Bank by December 15<sup>th</sup> so gifts can be delivered to families in time for Christmas. St. Gianna is participating in this program and invites all parishioners to consider helping. Thank you for your generosity.

#### **HOLY MASS TIMES**

#### Wednesday, December 15, 2021

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

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

Friday, December 17, 2021

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

Saturday, December 18, 2021

4:00pm-4:50pm Confessions

5:00pm Holy Mass

#### Sunday, December 19, 2021

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

#### **HOLY MASS INTENTIONS**

**December 15, 2021** Jason Kaiya

December 17, 2021 †Robert Felten (Paul & Mary Sutton)

December 18, 2021 M. J. Melquist

December 19, 2021(Latin)†Parishioners †Eugene Peters (Janela Hubka) December 19, 2021



### CHURCH OF SAINT PAUL NEWS

#### **CHURCH OF ST. PAUL FAITH FORMATION**

The next Faith Formation class/session will be on Wednesday, January 5, at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island.

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 & Benediction.

(from page 1) a disciple might have thought that Jesus was a kind of spirit, so He Himself dispelled such doubts forever. He said to them: Handle Me and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have. (Luke 24:39) And then they gave Him a piece of broiled fish, and He took it and ate before them. John was there and, as on so many other occasions, saw Him eat. After that he could never lose his overwhelming certainty of that Flesh, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands. (1 John 1:1)

God became man in Mary's Womb. He did not suddenly appear on earth like a heavenly vision, but became a real man like us, taking our human nature in the pure Womb of a woman. In this way His eternal generation (His Divinity, the pre-existence of the Word) is distinguished from His birth in time. Jesus in His Divinity is mysteriously begotten, not made, by the Father through all eternity. In His humanity, however, He was born, 'was made' from the Blessed Virgin Mary at one definite moment in human history. Because of this, the Blessed Virgin, being the Mother of Jesus Christ, Who is God, is truly the Mother of God, as the Council of Ephesus defined as a Dogma of the Faith. (*Dz-Sch*, 252)

We look at the Baby Who will be born in a few days in Bethlehem of Judaea, and we know very well that He is *the key, the center and the purpose of the whole of man's history.* (Second Vatican Council, *Gaudium et Spes*, 10) On this Child depends our whole existence, on earth and in Heaven. And He wants us to treat Him with friendship and complete confidence. He became so small in order that we should not be afraid to come close to Him.

The most holy Humanity of Our Lord is the way to the Trinity. Imitating Jesus. Getting to know Him better by reading the Gospels. Meditating on His life: God the Father predestined humanity to be conformed to the Image of His Son, in order that He might be the first-born among many brethren. (Rom. 8:29) Our life has to be a continual imitation of His life here on earth. He is our Model for all the virtues and our relationship with Him is different from that which we have with the other two Persons of the Blessed Trinity. The grace bestowed upon man through the Sacraments is not merely 'the Grace of God', (like that which filled the soul of Adam before the Fall) but, in a true and accurate sense, 'the Grace of Christ'. Christ was a real man, an individual man, with His own family and His own country, with His own customs, with His own trials and personal preferences; one specific individual, this Jesus. (Acts 2:32) But at the same time, because of the supremacy of His Divine Person. He could and can receive into Himself everything which is truly human, everything which properly belongs to human nature. We cannot experience a single good thought or feeling, which He cannot make His own, nor is there any thought or feeling of His which we ought not to do our best to make ours. Jesus has a deep love for all that is truly human - work, friendship, the family - and above all for men, with their defects and miseries. His most holy Humanity is our way to the Trinity.

By His example Jesus teaches us how we must serve and help the people around us: *I have given you an example*, He tells us, *that you also should do as I have done to you*. (John 13:15) Charity is to love - *as I have loved you*. (John 13:34) *Walk in love, as Christ loved us* (Eph. 5:1), says St. Paul. And when he wanted to exhort the first Christians to charity and humility he said simply: *Have this mind among yourselves which was in Christ Jesus*. (Phil. 2:5) We must take Christ as our Model in the way we practice the virtues,

the way we treat other people, the way we do (continued on page 4)

#### WEEKLY TITHING for December 5, 2021

 Sunday Envelopes:
 \$ 875.00

 Plate:
 \$ 63.50

 EFT:
 \$ 1,765.00

 Total:
 \$ 2,703.50

 Cemetery Collection
 \$ 751.00

A Thank You note received for the Appalachian Christmas donations: We had great weather for packing the semi this year and they had beautiful weather for unloading too. God is good. 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 Hupf

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. 12. If you miss this deadline, please drop off donation at the Church office by Dec. 15. 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!

**Basket Donations Needed:** If you have any baskets that you would be willing to donate for our Christmas basket project, please drop off at the Church of St. Paul. Any questions, call Sue Hinrichs. Thank you!

#### Words to Live By:

"We who are Christians have a further cause for joy: like Jesus, we know that we are loved by God our Father. This love transforms our lives and fills us with joy. It makes us see that Jesus did not come to lay burdens upon us. He came to teach us what it means to be fully happy and fully human. Therefore, we discover joy when we discover Truth the Truth about God our Father, the Truth about Jesus our Savior, the Truth about the Holy Spirit who lives in our hearts." St. John Paul II "Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of Christ risen." St. Mother Teresa

"The soul of the one who serves God always swims in joy, always keeps holiday, and is always in the mood for singing." St. John of the Cross

"Act in a way that all those who come in contact with you will go away joyful. Sow happiness about you because you have received much from God." St. Faustina

"The true way to advance in holy virtues, is to persevere in a holy cheerfulness." St. Philip Neri

"God loves those who find joy in giving." St. Pope John Paul II

#### 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

#### **HOLY MASS TIMES**

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

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

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

Thursday, December 16, 2021

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

Sunday, December 19, 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

**December 14, 2021** †Gary & Lynette Crismore Family

December 16, 2021 †Adrianne Nodland (Byron & Barb Boraas)

December 19, 2021 Parishioners



## NEWS FROM SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT PAUL

(from page 3) our work, in everything. To imitate Him is to be filled with a Spirit and a way of reacting which ought to direct the life of every Christian, whatever his qualities, his state in life, or his place in

To imitate Our Lord, really to be His disciples, we must see ourselves in Him. It's not enough to have a general idea of the Spirit of Jesus; we have to learn the details of His life and, through them, His attitudes. Especially must we contemplate His life, to derive from it strength, light, serenity and peace.

When you love someone, you want to know all about his life and character, so as to become like him. That is why we have to meditate on the life of Jesus, from His Birth in a stable right up to His Death and Resurrection. (J. Escriva, Christ is Passing By, 107) Only in this way will our mind and our heart draw nearer to Christ.

During these days it will be easy for us, by reading and meditating on the Gospel, to contemplate the baby Jesus with Mary and Joseph in the manger at Bethlehem. We will learn important lessons about detachment, humility and concern for other people. The shepherds will teach us the joy of finding God, and the wise men how we must adore Him; we will feel that we have been given a new strength to persevere in the following of our way.

If we make a habit of attentively reading and mediating on the Holy Gospel every day we shall, in a sense, take part in the life of Christ; we shall get to know Him better every day; and, perhaps without our realizing it, our life in the world will come to be a reflection of His." (From *In Conversation with God*, by Francis Fernandez) Through the intercession of Mary, the Immaculate Conception, St. Joseph, St. Michael, St. Paul, and all the Holy Angels, may God grant us the grace to prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord at Christmas! In Christ through Mary, Fr. Kasel

**Prayer for Victory in Christ through Mary:** O Jesus our Savior, my Lord and my God, my God and my all, with Your sacrifice of the Cross You redeemed us and defeated the power of Satan. I beg You to deliver me from every evil presence and every evil influence.

I ask You in Your Name, I ask You for the sake of Your wounds, I ask You for the sake of Your Blood, I ask You for the sake of Your Cross, I ask You through the intercession of Mary, Immaculate and Sorrowful: May the Blood and the Water that flow from Your side wash over me to purify me, deliver me, heal me. Amen.

O most high Queen of Heaven and of the Angels, we humbly beseech you, who received from God the power and the mission to crush Satan's head: Command the Heavenly Host to pursue the demons in battle wherever they are, to rebuke their daring, and to thrust them into the abyss. Amen. Prayer by Fr. Gabriele Amorth († 2016) Fr. Amorth was the Chief Exorcist of Rome, Italy.

## Advent Penances and Act of Charity

Dear Parishioners: As part of 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



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Cemetery

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"Remember To Pray For Our Beloved Departed."

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.

Church of St. Michael Church of St. Paul Cemetery

For Plot Information Call the Parish Office 507-356-4280