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St. Michael Catholic Church

Sunday Mass - 8 am

Wednesday Mass - 5 pm

Jean Dummer

Confessions -

Second Wednesday of the month after Mass

Fourth Sunday of the month after Mass

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 13, 2025

In the Gospel, the scholar of the law asked Jesus a question to test him. His intentions were not altogether pure. The Pharisees were the “party of holiness.” They sought to separate themselves from all that was unclean and non-Jewish. “They believed that imitating God’s holiness meant separating oneself from everything and everyone who was unclean, especially sinners, tax collectors and, most of all, Gentiles. Jesus saw the dangerous nationalism engendered by this understanding of holiness. ... Jesus had a different vision of God and therefore of ethics. The key to imitating God’s holiness was mercy” (Gray, *Mission of the Messiah*, 68). The Old Law the Pharisees and Scholars of the Law sought to practice perfectly made mercy mandatory, but only upon those who were within the Mosaic covenant (see Leviticus 19:18). Jesus responds to the question about the law and inheriting eternal law by contrasting holiness as “mercy” (*hesed*) and holiness as separation.

When the priest and the Levite saw the man left for dead by the thieves, they practiced the holiness of separation. “The answer for their aversion of the dying man would have been crystal clear to any Jew of the first century. Both the priest and the Levite were well-trained in the Torah and the rigorous ritual regulations of the Temple and, according to the law, any contact with the dying man would have made them ritually unclean (see Numbers 19:11)” (Gray, *Mission of the Messiah*, 70). If they became unclean, there was a week-long process they would have to undergo to be cleansed. They sought to avoid this and preserve their ritual holiness. At what cost? Jesus uses the Samaritan as the example of true holiness. The Samaritans “were the remnant of the ten tribes of northern Israel that had been conquered by the Assyrians in 722 B.C.” The Samaritans did two things that made them anathema to the Jews: They mixed their bloodline and their worship with the Gentiles. Such assimilation was the opposite of separation that constituted holiness in the Jewish mindset. The Samaritans were viewed not simply with distrust, but disgust; they embodied the abandonment of holiness and the politics of separation. So, after a priest and Levite leave the man for dead, the astonishing part of the story is that a Samaritan is the one who has compassion on the Jewish man who lies dying (Gray, *Mission of the Messiah*, 71). While the priest and Levite were the literal neighbors of the man, the Samaritan acted as the true neighbor. Holiness is not defined by separation, but by merciful and self-giving love.

God bless,
Fr. Cory Rohlfing

Welcome to all those visiting us today. We invite everyone to continue to celebrate Mass with us at St. Michael's. Please let the parish office know if we can be of assistance to you.

CONTRIBUTIONS		Saints of the week	Divine Mercy Mass schedule:
July 6, 2025		July 13 - St. Henry	Sunday - 8 am, 10 am,
Adult Envelopes:	\$ 1407.00	July 14 - St. Kateri Tekakwitha	12 pm (Spanish), 5 PM
Loose Plate:	\$ 57.00	St. Camillus de Lellis	Monday - 5:30 pm
Parking Lot:	\$ 620.00	July 15 - St. Bonaventure	Tuesday - 8:30 am
			Wednesday - 8:30 am
			Thursday - 8:30 am
			Friday - 8:30 am
			Saturday - 8:30 am, 4 pm

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE		IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES
July 20		July 18 - Holy Hour of Reparation 6:00 am
Reader:	Donna Lexvold	July 21-25 - Vacation Bible School
Ushers:	Bruce & Laura Chmelik	July 21 - Parish Council 7:00 pm
Servers:	Serenity Overholt & Greyson Overholt	July 25 - Holy Hour of Reparation 6:00 am
EM:	Mary Murry & JoAnn Erie	July 27 - Confessions 9:00 am
July 27		August 1 - Holy Hour of Reparation 6:00 am
Reader:	Georgia Quamme	August 8 - Holy Hour of Reparation 6:00 am
Ushers:	Tim Karl & Greg Dapper	
Servers:	Ben Keller & Sam Keller	
EM:	Lynn Auseth & Barb Story	
July money counters:		
	Marv Donkers & Bruce Chmelik	

We pray for all our parishioners, families and friends who are in need of physical or spiritual healing, especially, Reymundo Ramirez, Thomas Eilen, Jaci Eilen, MacKensie Eilen, Gary Mogren, Beth Curran, Clark Richaleau, Bill McDonald, Michaela Neuzil, Greg Krinke, LaVonne Mogren, and Harold Amundson.

We pray for those in the Armed forces, especially Sergio Jr & Angela Rodriguez, Zury Hoaglund, Zane Hoaglund, and Naomi Bauernfeind.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS
AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear St. Michael's parents of faith formation students and other parishioners of St. Michaels:

As I begin my third year as Faith formation director here at St. Michaels, I look back at how much I have learned not only in my personal faith but also about the children here at St. Michaels. They are a very good group of children. We have a lot of fun with classes and the youth group gatherings we have. Some of these gatherings are just to hang out, talk, play games, and, of course, eat.

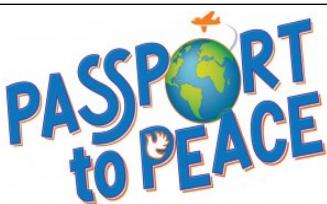
The only problem I am really facing is NOT having enough volunteers for teaching and helpers for youth groups and VBS, and occasionally, substitutes for teaching and door monitor.

Therefore, I am on a strong campaign to seek volunteers and/or helpers. Please consider the difference you can make to our program and get to know the children here better by sharing your time with them. The only requirement you need is to complete the Virtus training program which I can help you with. I can work with everyone's schedule. You can share classes with someone else every other Sunday, etc. Share your ideas with me.

Personally, I feel we all take for granted these children are our future, not only here at church, but in our world. They will move on from here once they graduate, but whatever we can teach them and share with them now, I believe they will always carry with them.

If anyone would like to come to get more information, I have my office hours posted on the faith formation office door and the bulletin board. I would love to visit with you. I plan on addressing this more actively as we move closer to our faith formation year. As of now, I have myself and one other person committed to teach this coming year. I will be taking the confirmation class and the 7th grade class next year. I still need four more teachers, three at the minimum.

PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING US. I WILL BE FOREVER GRATEFUL! PEACE TO ALL OF YOU AND GOD BLESS!

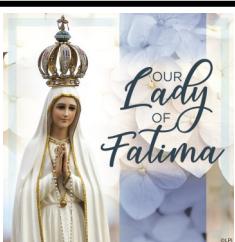


Vacation Bible School will be July 21-25. Children ages 4 (must be potty-trained) to 12 years old are invited to join us on this adventure! All are welcome!

Registration forms are available in the parish office. Cost is \$15/child or a family maximum of \$45.

For more information or questions contact JoAnn at faithformation@kwwb.net or 507-789-6120.

I am looking for volunteers for VBS July 21 through July 25 for helping and snack donations. For helpers, even if you can just help a day or couple days or just part of day, I would be grateful. There are two sign-up sheets on the bulletin board, if you can help or donate. Thank you, Jo Ann Erie.



Join us in praying the Rosary in honor of the
Anniversary of the 4th Marian Apparition at Fatima
Wednesday, August 13 at 7:00 pm.
Rosary will be prayed in front of St. Michael's Church.

SEVEN SISTERS FOR FATHER STEVE BOATWRIGHT

A Seven Sisters Apostolate is being formed for newly ordained Father Steve Boatwright, currently assigned to duties at St. Joseph Church in Rosemount and St. Michael's in Kenyon. It will begin after all 7 days of the week have one "sister" (prayerful woman of the parish) committed to pray 1 hour in Eucharistic Adoration at any parish with daily or weekend adoration. We currently are in need of a sister for the following days: Monday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. We could also use 3 more subs who would consider praying in Eucharistic Adoration if the sister is unable to pray on her day. Please contact Mary Blair at blairmjc14@gmail.com or 651-983-0804 if you are interested in joining this wonderful ministry. You can find more information about this Apostolate at this link: www.sevensistersapostolate.org.

Community Events/News

•Everyone is invited to the 53rd annual LITOMYSL SUMMER FESTIVAL at Holy Trinity Catholic Church at Lito-mysl, 9946 SE 24th Avenue, rural Owatonna, on Sunday, July 27th beginning with a Polka Mass at 10:15 am by the Litomyslanous Polka Band. The Owatonna KC Choir will sing at 9:30 am. Food and refreshment stands outdoors 11 am to 4 pm. Pie, ice cream, and filled biscuits served in the church basement. Many adult and children's games. Raffle with 42 prizes. Country Store, Used a Bit Sale, and a Silent Auction in the St. Isidore Parish Center. Live musical entertainment including the The Klecker Band, Hans Hohrman, the Dan Sturssa Band and the Rockin' Hep Cats. Free Shuttle. Prune, poppyseed, and apricot biscuits (buchty) go on sale at 11 am (in the church basement). Holy Trinity Church is handicapped accessible and air conditioned.

