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St. Michael Catholic Church

Sunday Mass - 8 am

Wednesday Mass - 5 pm

Nancy Wulfmeier †

Confessions -

Second Wednesday of the month after Mass

Fourth Sunday of the month after Mass

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 21, 2025

Jesus is incredibly realistic. He knows the human heart entirely because he is fully God and fully man. And so, He knows it's impossible for us to serve two masters. And so, Jesus puts it bluntly: "No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and wealth." In modern terms, we might say you can't have two full-time careers without prioritizing one over the other.

Therefore, in today's Gospel Jesus asks us to check our hearts. Whom do we serve? Do we serve God, or have we made ourselves slaves of material possessions? Money is not a bad thing. In fact, the Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us differences in levels of wealth "belong to God's plan, who wills that each receives what he needs from others and that those endowed with particular 'talents' share the benefits with those who need them" (CCC 1937).

Those who have been given the gift of wealth have a duty to use it wisely for the good of their brothers and sisters. But the love of money is destructive. It takes our minds off of heaven. It hardens our hearts to the needs of our brothers and sisters. It makes us anxious and unsettled, terrified we might lose our nest egg of security.

If we cling to the good things God has given us, and try to possess them, we lose them. But if we treat them as gifts of God, which are good but subordinate to him, we keep them for eternity.

Examine our Anxiety: St Francis De Sales said an accurate way to gauge our attachment to money is to ask one simple question. "Am I filled with excessive anxiety at financial setbacks – or even at the mere thought of them?" He wants to set our hearts free, so we're not enslaved to anything. He wants to be our great treasure, because only in him can our souls truly be at rest. The recent death of Charlie Kirk is a reminder of how anxiety can weigh heavily on the human heart. I have added him to my Mass intentions, entrusting him to the mercy of God. Any anxiety we feel in response to his passing, we give over to the Lord, who is the only one who can bring peace to our hearts.

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

September 14, 2025

Adult Envelopes: \$ 1500.00
Loose Plate: \$ 73.75

Saints of the week

September 21 - St. Matthew
September 26 - St. Cosmas and St. Damian
September 27 - St. Vincent de Paul
September 28 - St. Wenceslaus,
St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions

Divine Mercy Mass schedule:

Sunday - 8 am, 10 am,
12 pm (Spanish), 5 PM
Monday - 5:30 pm
Tuesday - 8:30 am
Wednesday - 8:30 am
Thursday - 8:30 am
Friday - 10:30 am at BA
Saturday - 8:30 am, 4 pm

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

September 28

Reader: Mike Chase
Ushers: Bruce & Laura Chmelik
Servers: Greyson Overholt & Mark Mund
EM: Susan Overholt & Renee Mund

October 5

Reader: Bruce Chmelik
Ushers: Greg Dapper & Dave Mund
Servers: Ben Keller & Sam Keller
EM: Brydie LaCanne & Barb Story

September money counters:
John Smith & Pam Hegseth

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

September 25 - Lectio Bible Study 7:00 pm

September 26 - Holy Hour of Reparation 6:00 am

September 28 - Confessions 9:00 am

October 2 - Lectio Bible Study 7:00 pm

October 3 - Holy Hour of Reparation 6:00 am

October 8 - Confessions 5:30 pm

October 9 - Lectio Bible Study 7:00 pm

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, Harold Amundson, Diane Nikunen, Sandy Rumstick, Kade Lexvold, and Kael Lexvold.

We pray for those in the Armed forces, especially Naomi Bauernfeind and William Parrish.

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.



Join us in praying the Rosary in honor of the
Anniversary of the 6th Marian Apparition at Fatima

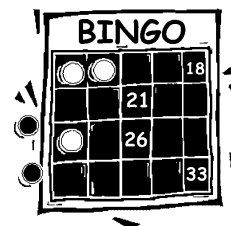
Monday, October 13 at 7 pm.

Rosary will be prayed in front of St. Michael's Church.

Bingo Party - November 22 at 7 PM!

Donations for the raffle tickets are needed to help make our Bingo party the success it is!

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the atrium for those of you who are able to donate a prize. Thank you!



Faith Formation is still in need of substitute teachers. Sometimes starting out as a substitute or helper makes one more comfortable with teaching full time. Please do not ever UNDERESTIMATE your ability to teach. The only skills you need is to enjoy sharing the faith with the children and loving Jesus. Volunteers are required to complete the Virtus training, which is all online now.



Altar Servers needed!

Altar servers have the privilege of assisting the priest in the sanctuary during the Mass and other liturgical functions. Would you be willing to serve our parish in this capacity? We are looking for people of all ages to help in this important role. Please contact the parish office for more information.

Can you spare a little bit of your time and your talents to help at St. Michael's? **We are in need of ushers, lectors, servers, and money counters.** These volunteer opportunities require very little time commitment, but would be a tremendous help and service to the church. Contact the office for more information.

Community Events/News

- The Church of Saint Michael, Pine Island is hosting their annual Fall Festival on Friday, October 3 & Sunday, October 5, 2025. Friday, October 3, 4pm-7:30pm - Our fabulous St. Michael Fish Fry from 4:00-7:30pm. Both baked & fried fish will be offered! Take out available! Prices: adults \$15.00, children 6-12 \$6.00, family maximum \$45.00. Fall mums are available for sale & art & craft vendors. Sunday, October 5, 10am-3pm - Kids outdoor games (11:45am), Cornhole Tournament –there will be separate games for adults & children- (Registration begins at 12noon and tournament starts 1pm), fall mums for sale, silent auction, art & craft vendors. Food available for free-will offering.
- Nerstrand United Methodist Church Fall Festival is Saturday, October 4 from 10 am - 1 pm. Home and holiday décor, puzzles, silent auction, bake sale, produce, vintage items, and thrift clothing. Lunch menu: hot beef sandwiches, pasta salad, chicken and wild rice soup, and dessert.
- 43rd Annual Harvest Bazaar hosted by the St. Mary's CCW at the Bellechester Community Center on Saturday, October 4 from 9 am - 2 pm. Bake sale and lunch. Drawings, face painting, door prizes, and many vendors.
- America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally in West Concord on Saturday, October 11, 2025 beginning at noon in Centennial Park on the corner of Hwy 56 and Main St. Call 319-239-4639 if you have questions. All are welcome.

Pope Leo XIV meets with Bishop Kenney, other bishops during annual formation courses

Bishop Kevin Kenney of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis was among the bishops who met with Pope Leo XIV for the Vatican's annual formation courses for new bishops.

Catholic News Service (CNS) reported close to 200 clerics who had been named bishops in the past year met with Pope Leo XIV in Rome for the formation.

"Maybe some of you are still saying: Why was I chosen? At least I ask myself that," the pope said Sept. 11, according to CNS. "The gift you have received is not for yourselves, but to serve the cause of the Gospel. You have been chosen and called to be sent out as apostles of the Lord and as servants of the faith."

The pope spent more than three hours with the bishops, CNS reported, then spent roughly 90 minutes listening to the bishops' concerns and responding to their questions behind closed doors.

The pope "shared his story and encouraged all of us to live the calls we have received," Bishop Kenney said in a text message. "He is a very humble man and sincere in his words and actions!"

Bishop Kenney said that at the end of the gathering, the pope took a photo with each bishop individually.

"I thanked him for his words of prayer for Annunciation at the Angelus two Sundays ago," Bishop Kenney said. "I gave him an Annunciation VIP button and wished him a 'Happy Birthday!' As I left, he looked me in the eyes and said, 'God bless you!'"

