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St. Michael Catholic Church

Sunday Mass - 8 am

Wednesday Mass - 5 pm

Jerry Mangold †

Confessions -

Fourth Sunday of the month after Mass

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2026

Christ respects our freedom. Jesus has a combination of eagerness to win over disciples, but respects his listeners' freedom. Sometimes Jesus uses a parable to explain a hard-to-understand divine truth, a truth about God and his plan of salvation. Some interpreters say Jesus used these stories and comparisons to conceal his meaning from his opponents. But there is also another way to look at it. Sometimes people don't want to accept the plain truth, because it means they have to change. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught the plain truth. But many didn't accept it. So now he takes a more roundabout way to convince them. The parables offer his listeners a chance to accept certain truths in the abstract, before seeing how they apply to them personally. It is a way of sneaking uncomfortable truths through his listener's mental defense mechanisms, penetrating indirectly the minds that have closed themselves to his direct proclamations.

Jesus always respects our freedom, but he never gives up on convincing us to use that freedom well.

Two brothers were arguing about the wisdom of their parents. "Father is wise," said the first brother. The second brother disagreed. "Father is not so wise! We're just as smart as he is. I'll prove it to you." The next day the second brother went into the woods near his home and captured a small bird. He brought the bird home and said to his brother, "Let's go find dad. I will show you he isn't so smart." The two brothers went into their father's study, the second one holding the small bird between his cupped hands. "Father, I have a question for you," he said. "I hold a small bird in my hands. Tell me, is this bird dead or alive?" If he said the bird was dead, the boy would simply open his hands and show the bird was alive. If his father answered the bird was alive, he would crush it between his hands and reveal the bird was dead. This would prove his dad wasn't so wise after all. The boys' father considered the question for a moment and said, "My son...the answer is in your hands."

In his wisdom, God created us with free will. He gives us the choice each day to follow Christ's voice in our hearts, not the lies of the enemy, the sighs of our laziness, or the seductions of the world around us. Will our lives be meaningful, fruitful, and happy? The answer is in our hands.

Peace,
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

July 12, 2026

Adult Envelopes: \$ 1447.00
Loose Plate: \$ 115.00

Saints of the week

July 21 - St. Lawrence of Brindisi
July 22 - St. Mary Magdalene
July 23 - St. Bridget
July 25 - St. James
July 26 - St. Joachim and St. Ann

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 - 8:30 am
Saturday - 8:30 am, 4 pm

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

July 26

Reader: Charlie Priore
Ushers: Bruce & Laura Chmelik
Servers: Ben Keller & Sam Keller
EM: Lynn Ausethe & JoAnn Erie

August 2

Reader: Georgia Quamme
Ushers: Tom Coffman & Jim Donkers
Servers: Mark Mund & Christian LaCanne
EM: Renee Mund & Brydie LaCanne

July money counters:
Georgia Quamme & Bruce Chmelik

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

July 20-24 - Vacation Bible School 9:00-11:00 am

July 20 - Parish Council 7:00 pm

July 23 - Eucharistic Adoration 6:00-6:55 pm
Bible Study 7:00 pm

July 24 - Holy Hour of Reparation 5:30 am

July 26 - Confessions 9:00 am

July 30 - Eucharistic Adoration 6:00-6:55 pm
Bible Study 7:00 pm

July 31 - Holy Hour of Reparation 5:30 am

We pray for all our parishioners, families and friends who are in need of physical or spiritual healing, especially, Thomas Eilen, Jaci Eilen, MacKensie Eilen, Harold Amundson, Sandy Rumstick, Diana Kelley, Greg Krinke, Bev Watson, Faith Cruz, Simone Boesen, Brynlee Bemis, Kelli Meyer Branstad, Ruth Seyfer, and Bishop Kevin Kenney.

We pray for those in the Armed forces, especially 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.

Bible Study

During the summer months we will be using the bible study time to pray for different intentions each Thursday starting at 7 pm. All are welcome!

Eucharistic Adoration will also be offered each Thursday from 6-6:55 pm.



Our Lady of Fatima

1917-2026

Mary appeared to three children in Fatima, Portugal at the Cova da Iria on the 13th of the month for 6 months beginning May 13, 1917. In remembrance of Mary's apparitions we will be praying a public Rosary in front of St. Michael's Church on the following days and times:

August 13, 2026 (Thursday) - 7:00 pm

September 13, 2026 (Sunday) - 9:00 am

October 13, 2026 (Tuesday) - 7:00 pm

Everyone is welcome to join in praying the Rosary!

Parish Council

Please discern if your time, talents, and wisdom could be utilized by joining our Parish Council. We would love to have new members for their ideas and insight in making St. Michael's a viable and flourishing parish. It is a fairly small time commitment with council meetings every other month on the third Monday at 7 pm. Contact the parish office for more information.

Current council members include:

Lou Breimhurst, Trustee

Greg Dapper, President

Laurie Chmelik

Ron Keller

Annette Kraft

Terry LaCanne

Donna Lexvold

Chris Opheim

Chris Petricka, Trustee

Lord, through the intercession of St. Charbel, who lived in prayer and total surrender, we ask for healing light to touch Bishop Kevin's body, mind, and spirit. As a model of faith, guide me to trust in God's divine will, asking for relief and strength for Bishop Kevin, myself, and my loved ones. Amen.



Pray for Bishop Kenney
as he faces cancer diagnosis



St. Jude, you are the bearer of abiding hope. I place Bishop Kevin in your care as he bears the cross of cancer. I trust that you intercede constantly for him, giving him courage when he is afraid, strength when he grows weary, hope for his most difficult challenges. Most faithful patron, may you remind me always of the love and healing God offers to each of His children. Amen.

Community Events/News

- Nerstrand United Methodist Church is hosting their annual ice cream social on Sunday, July 26 from 4:30-6:30 pm. Menu: sloppy joes, coleslaw, chips, root beer floats, and ice cream sundaes. Free will donation.
- A benefit for Brynlee Bemis will be on Sunday, August 16 from 2-6 pm at the Moose Lodge 2098, 1810 4th St NW, Faribault. Raffle bundles, guns, meat, fishing/spearing gear, woodwork, sporting & event tickets, live and silent auction, and more. Brynlee is 3 months old and diagnosed with NTRK1 fusion high-grade glioma cancer. All proceeds will go directly to support Brynlee.



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“He replied, ‘No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest.’” - Mt 13:29-30