

Fr. Kenneth Popp – Pastor, Michael Pekar – Pastoral Associate contact information: 468-2316 or 320-221-1134

Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thurs. - 8:30 am to 3:30 pm and Fri. - 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Parish office number 468-6033.

Regular Mass Times for Area Community Parishes:

St. John Nepomuk of Lastrup - Saturdays at 8p.m. and Sundays at 10:45a.m. Holy Cross Church of Harding -Sundays at 8:45a.m.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8th – DECEMBER 13th, 2020

Tuesday, December 8 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. Pierz +Joseph Gruber
 5:30 p.m. Pierz +Herb Stumpf
 7:30 p.m. Buckman +Leona Anna Funk

Wednesday, December 9

8:00 a.m. Buckman +Regina R. Grittner
 7-8:00 p.m. Buckman Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday, December 10

8:00 a.m. Buckman +Mathew J. Motschke

Friday, December 11

8:30 a.m. Pierz +Ewald, Delphine, & Joan Gall
 8:30 a.m. Buckman Word/Communion Service
 3-6:00 p.m. Pierz Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday, December 12

4:30 p.m. Pierz +Harvey Otremba

Sunday, December 13

8:00 a.m. Pierz +Richard Virnig
 10:00 a.m. Buckman +Donald R. Marshik & For the People of the Parishes



ST. MICHAEL'S WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

Adult \$ 1626.00
 High School \$ 13.00
 Elementary \$ 11.00
 Plate \$ 387.00
 \$ 2037.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance **November 26th** Thanksgiving: 85
 Mass attendance **November 29th** Sunday: 193

ST. JOSEPH'S WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

Adult \$ 4897.00
 High School \$ 10.00
 Elementary \$ 16.25
 Plate \$ 20.00
 \$ 4943.25

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance **November 26th** Thanksgiving: 63
 Mass attendance **November 28th** Saturday: 92
 Mass attendance **November 29th** Sunday: 112

CONFESSIONS: Buckman, Thurs. - 7:30 a.m.
 Pierz, Sat. - 3:30 p.m. or by appt.

HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR WINNERS

Nov. 30 – Jenny & Jason Sadlovsky, **Dec. 1** – James Wafler & Lillian Pohlkamp, **Dec. 2** – Ken & Diane Hoheisel, **Dec. 3** – Carla Hanneken, **Dec. 4** – Jenny Brill, **Dec. 5** – Mike & Sarah Seelen (\$35 Winners). **Dec. 6** – Mason Zajac (\$75 Winner).

From the Pastoral Associate: Both versions of the prophetic cry have meaning for us today. From Isaiah, our Old Testament reading: "In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!" It is only when we STOP that we can begin. It is only when we are STILL that we can CLEAR the things that clutter our hearts and minds and we can be alone, like in a desert. Only then in the prepared, humble desert are we ready to be influenced by the Lord and His presence and His ways. From Mark our Gospel Reading: "A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'" (Imagine a snowy winter.) In other-words, break out the snow-plow, clear the roadway. We are to REMOVE any barrier, any hindrance, that would impede the Lord traveling to meet us. The tasks of Advent, the STOPPING, STILLING, CLEARING, and the REMOVING are all necessary to make a clear path for the Lord to our heart. Depending upon our career and our situations in life, this time of Pandemic may make these tasks easier than normal to do or even more difficult than normal to do. Either way the task is before us, unless of course we really don't want to know the Lord and His ways. Have a Blessed Advent. ~~~ Michael Pekar

LOOKING AHEAD: The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation, is on Tuesday, December 8th. Masses on Tues., Dec. 8th are in Pierz at 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., and in Buckman at 7:30 p.m.
 *Masses in Lastrup are on Mon., Dec 7th at 8:00 p.m. and Tues., Dec 8th at 7:00 p.m. Masses in Harding are on Mon., Dec. 7th at 8:00 p.m. and Tues., Dec. 8th at 8:30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS SCHEDULE FOR ADVENT:
 Thurs, Dec. 10th 7:30 a.m. St. Michael's-Buckman
 Thurs, Dec. 10th 10:30 a.m. St. Joseph's-Pierz
 Thurs, Dec. 10th 7:30 p.m. St. Michael's-Buckman
 Sat. Dec. 12th 10:00 a.m. St. Joseph's-Pierz
 Sat. Dec. 12th 1:00 p.m. St. Michael's-Buckman
 Sat. Dec. 12th 3:30 p.m. St. Joseph's-Pierz

FPSR NEWS: 468-2640
Presentation of the Confirmation Candidates 2021:
LASTRUP- Brenna Dickmann, Ethan Hayes, Paige Laney, Piper Laney, Madelyn Smude. **HARDING-** Abbey Foust, Trista Krych, Brooke Poser, Brooke Schubert, Abby Skwira, Alyssa Thesing, Ethan Thesing, Baylee Young. **BUCKMAN-** Anna Berg, Isaac Eiyk, Megan Girtz, Connor Gotvald, Mason Herold, Graci Stangl, Madison Talberg, Emily Virnig, Andrew Winscher, Ava Winzenburg. **PIERZ-** Maddie Andrea, Jetta Boser, Louis Gruber, Logan Herold, Hunter Hoheisel, Jacob Hoheisel, Sara Hoheisel, Zach Jones, Rylee Kapsner, Kloe Kliber, Katie Leidenfrost, Morgan Pohlkamp, Daryn Popp, Chrissy Schaefer, Mason Sullivan, Benjamin Virnig. **LITTLE FALLS** (Holy Family/Our Lady of Lourdes)- Lexi Hoskins, Trevor Radunz, Ethan Krych, Andrew Waytashek.

ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS & ACTIVITIES:

SUN., Dec. 13th @ 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Janice Janson

Communion Ministers: Alice Nordmann & Bob Lochner

USHERS FOR DECEMBER: Grant Stangl, Nathan Gruber, & Shane Zilka

AT PEACE WITH GOD: *Anna Gangl* passed away on Thursday, November 19th. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, November 23rd at St. Michael's Catholic Church, with burial in the parish cemetery. We extend our sympathy to the families and assure them of our prayerful support.

CHRIST CHILD BABY SHOWER: Baby items, including new & gently used clothing, coats, hats, mittens & diapers are being collected, along with monetary donations for area families in need. Sponsored by the Buckman CW/M. Basket in the church. Any questions, call Cindy Scholl at 320-630-8410.

COFFEE CAKES FOR SALE: Christian Mothers/Women will be selling coffee cakes after Mass on Sun. Dec. 20th (only 100 will be made). CDC guidelines will be followed.

SECRET SANTA: Buckman Area Lions do a Secret Santa and surprises a family in need. This year they are asking for your help to finding that family. Located in the Parish Center entryway is a Christmas tree. Please take a paper ornament from the basket and inside write the family's information, then seal the ornament shut and then hang it on the tree. The ornaments will be collected daily. Thank You for Your Help!

PRAYER LINE: If you are in need of prayers please call Mary Brenny at 320-393-2781 or Mary Malinowski at 468-6148.

**If you would like to be on the prayer line to pray for others please call Patty Commerford at 468-2487.



ST. JOSEPH'S NEWS AND ACTIVITIES:

SAT., Dec. 12th @ 4:30 p.m., & SUN., Dec. 13th @ 8:00 a.m.

Weekday Lector: Al Pekarek

Communion Ministers: Sat. Dec. 12- Sara Fyten & Keith Marshik, Sun. Dec. 13- Leroy Swanson & Beth Fischer

LECTORS FOR DECEMBER:

Sat. -Al Pekarek, Sun. - Keith Marshik

USHERS FOR DECEMBER:

Sat.- John Kurtz, Neal Kimman, Jeremy Virnig, & Allan Kroll, Sun.- Neil Korf, Floyd Mathiowetz, Larry Etzel, & Jason Sadlovsky

AT PEACE WITH GOD: *Judith "Judy" Riley* passed away on Sunday, November 22nd. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, November 30th at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, with burial in the parish cemetery.

Christ Child Baby Shower: A basket will be placed by the side front altar for baby items. Needed are diapers, blankets, clothes, donations, etc. Items will be given to families in need and Pierz food shelf. Sponsored by Pierz Christian Women. Questions call (320) 468 6070 – Thank you.

St Joseph's Quilting Circle: Tying and stitching will be put on hold until after the latest shut downs are lifted. Any questions call Eileen at 320-360-2434.

PRAYER LINE: If you are in need of prayers please call Karen Gross at 468-6818.

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL: 468-6446

*Tuesday, December 8 students and staff will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

*Raffle calendars are on sale for \$25. Contact a school parent or the office to purchase your calendar. Last day for purchase is on December 15th. They make great Christmas gifts.

*December faith formation activities include weekly Advent prayer services and a visit from St. Nicholas.

ADVENT MESSAGE WEEK TWO: Each of the five candles represents something different, an important element in the coming of Christ and our expectation of him. Three purple candles (Hope, Peace, Joy), a pink candle (Love), and a white candle (Christ) represent the five elements of the Christmas story. This week, we'll cover the second candle: the candle of peace. Jesus brings us peace in a number of ways. First, he gives us inner peace. Because of his work on the cross, we have a chance to receive salvation and be indwelt by the Holy Spirit. This grants us an inner peace (John 14:27). Not only do we have the peace that comes from our assurance of salvation, but we also have the peace of mind knowing God will heal this broken world and will come again. Second, we have peace with others. We put aside our differences (**Galatians 3:28**), especially with other believers, because we belong to the same family. Why Does Peace matter? Our peace can also stir the curiosity of those who do not believe in Christ. They will see us exercise a spirit of tranquility, faith, and they will want to know the reason for our faith in shaky times. When they ask, we can have a reason at the ready. "I am not afraid because I have the peace of Christ." Advent Wreath Prayer Week 2 — Peace Heavenly Father, You are the God who gives peace. This second week of Advent causes us to remember that because of Jesus we can experience a Christmas free from turmoil and chaos. Regardless of our circumstances or our situations, you offer us peace that passes understanding. That first Christmas, when you sent your Son, you sent the one who is called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Even the angels cried out, "Glory to God in the highest **heaven**, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." The angels knew your purpose. They know the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love that Christmas held. They recognized that the fullness of God was wrapped in the tiny flesh of an infant as you humbled yourself and dwelt among us. Emmanuel. God with us as the baby Jesus. That baby would grow to be the same God-man, Jesus, who would again humble himself to face death on a cruel cross as payment for our sin. He would triumphantly defeat sin and death and hell in order to cancel our sin debt and reconcile us to you, Father. You exalted Him and gave him a name above all names. Every knee in heaven and earth and under the earth must bow to the name of Jesus. The winds and waves obey Him. He rules and reigns as king overall. No situation or circumstance that we find ourselves in is a match for Jesus. We are able to have the fullness of peace in our hearts on Christmas day, and every day, because that same Jesus sits at your right hand in heaven and makes intercession for us. Not only that, but he paid our sin debt. He loves us with a love that is unfathomable. Nothing can separate us from His love. He is good and his plans for us are good. Father, this second week of Advent, keep us in perfect peace as our mind is stayed on the truth of your powerful love. Thank you for your mighty, sovereign hand. Help us to trust fully in you and rest in the peace that you offer. It's in the precious name of Jesus we pray. Amen.