

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.

<p>MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 5th – JANUARY 10th, 2021</p> <p><u>Tuesday, January 5</u> 8:00 a.m. Pierz St. Joseph's Christian Mothers/Women Members</p> <p><u>Wednesday, January 6</u> 8:00 a.m. Buckman +Mathew J. Motschke 7:00 p.m. Pierz Knights of Columbus Mass 7-8:00 p.m. Buckman Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><u>Thursday, January 7</u> 8:00 a.m. Buckman +Ray Kahl</p> <p><u>Friday, January 8 - Pierz HT School Mass: Ms. Cherne's 5th Grade Class</u> 8:30 a.m. Pierz +Leroy G. Hoheisel, and +Zita Poser 8:30 a.m. Buckman Word/Communion Service 3-6:00 p.m. Pierz Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><u>Saturday, January 9</u> 4:30 p.m. Pierz +Carol Hoheisel</p> <p><u>Sunday, January 10</u> 8:00 a.m. Pierz +Dorothy Schraut 10:00 a.m. Buckman +Ambrose Janski, and For the People of the Parishes</p>	<p><u>ST. MICHAEL'S WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:</u></p> <p>Adult \$ 2273.00 High School \$ 9.00 Plate \$ 667.00 \$ 2949.00</p> <p><i>Thank you for your generosity!</i> Mass attendance December 27th Sunday: 181</p>
<p><u>ST. JOSEPH'S WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:</u></p> <p>Adult \$ 3723.00 High School \$ 12.00 Elementary \$ 28.75 Plate \$ 110.00 \$ 3873.75</p> <p><i>Thank you for your generosity!</i> Mass attendance December 26th Saturday: 143 Mass attendance December 27th Sunday: 120</p>	<p><u>CONFESSIONS:</u> Buckman, Thurs. - 7:30 a.m. Pierz, Sat. - 3:30 p.m. or by appt.</p>

HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR WINNERS

December 28 – Joanie Watercott, **December 29** – Andrew Petron, **December 30** – Joe Bell, **December 31** – Jake & Lisa Hall, **January 1** – Laura Burningham, **January 2** – Dan Reginek - (\$35 Winners). **January 3** – Fr. Mitchell Bechtold (\$75 Winner).

From the Pastoral Associate: The Magi. From the Bible we do not know that much about the magi, but there some things we do know that we should imitate. We assume that they are three men, because there are three gifts and magi is plural masculine. We know they are from a foreign country in the East. We assume that if Jesus is born when the star appears, then Jesus could be at least two-years-old when they meet Him and Mary. We assume they are wealthy, maybe kings, or rulers, (who else could afford an unknown expedition which may have lasted four years round trip.) They pay close attention to the stars. They are polite and politically prudent, but maybe naive, in that they go to Herod. They are wise, a trait we should imitate, in that they leave a lot behind to go search for a king and do Him homage. The King is a priority for them. Are we willing to leave or use everything to follow the King? They are obedient to God's messengers, another trait we should imitate. Most of all, they are kind. The three gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh given to Jesus were gifts of homage, hopeful friendship and kindness. For the magi and us, true kindness and wisdom come from God. From God → to us → to God --- is the spiritual journey of our lives. God's reply after their worship and kindness is to direct them away from returning to Herod. God will direct our lives if we desire a kind relationship with Him. Many scripture scholars theorize that Joseph and Mary probably used two if not all three of the gifts to fund their travels to and life in Egypt, which came suddenly upon them right after the magi left. God provides for us by using the kindness and wisdom of others which are gifts the Holy Spirit gave to them. This continues to be how God works. God uses our God-given gifts that are freely given to Him to use to help others whom He desires. He could have struck down Herod with a bolt of lightning or a two-ton snowflake, but He prefers to work in this humble way. He continues to work through us His wise instruments. May we strive to be as wise, kind and obedient as those three appropriately named wise men. God will also use the gifts we give back to Him often in ways we do not expect. ~~~

Michael Pekar

THANK YOU! To Fr. David Maciej for celebrating Christmas Eve Mass with our parish.

CHILDREN'S ENVELOPES: The grade school children's envelopes for St. Joseph's and St. Michael's should have been sent home with the students. Grades 7th-11th collection envelopes for St. Joseph's will be in the back of the church south side and for St. Michael's they will be in the pew along the wall in the side entry of the church.

CHRISTMAS COLLETION & MASS COUNT:
St. Joseph's - \$21,918.25, **Dec. 24th 4:30p.m.** – 227, **Dec. 24th 8:00p.m.** – 98, **Dec. 25th** – 130.
St. Michael's - \$25,648, **Dec. 24th** – 249, **Dec. 25th** - 152.

From the Staff of St. Joseph's and St. Michael's.
 We hope everyone had a joyous and safe Christmas and New Year celebration! We would like to thank everyone for their generous and kind support throughout the year of 2020.

~ *Thank you*

ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS & ACTIVITIES:

SUN., Jan. 10th @ 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Jane Funk

Communion Ministers: Deb Hall & Cindy Scholl

Ushers for January: Brian Stangl, Gregg Stangl, Todd Caddy

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS/WOMEN NEWS:

*We are in need of a new treasurer. The duties of treasurer are posted at the parish office or at St Michael's Church in Buckman. For more information, call Patty at 468-2487.

*Meeting on Thurs. Jan. 21, 2021 at 1 p.m. at St. Michael's parish center.

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.

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.

DROP BOX AVAILABLE: There is now a locked drop box located on the wall in the breezeway of the parish office for you to leave messages, contributions/church envelopes, or anything else that needs to be dropped off for the secretaries to take care of. This will be checked every day.

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL: 468-6446

*Delicious Guatemalan gourmet coffee is for sale at the school office year-round. The purchase of the coffee supports farmers in Guatemala and Holy Trinity School.

*Happy New Year. May God bless your families throughout the year and always.

BLOOD DRIVE: The first Red Cross Bloodmobile of 2021 will take place at First United Church, 1000 1st Street SE, Little Falls, on Monday, Jan. 4 from 1-7pm, Tuesday, Jan. 5 from 12-6pm and Wed. Jan. 6 from 8:30am-2:30pm. We ask that you make an appointment on line at

www.redcrossblood.org or call Sister Julien Dirkes: 320-632-0663. Because of social distancing guidelines, walk-ins will not be accepted. If you are at least 16 years of age (with written parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds and are considered to be in good health, you may be eligible to donate blood. Please bring along a photo I.D. First-time donors are welcome—encourage a friend to donate!

FROZEN MEALS FOR SENIORS: Catholic Charities Senior Dining is offering healthy frozen meals that meet 1/3 of the recommended daily allowance for seniors, and are in oven-safe containers that are easy to heat in the oven or microwave. Meals are available in quantities of 10, up to 30 per calendar month. Participants must be 60+ years old to be eligible, and all clients must complete an annual registration form. There is no cost to participate; however, donations will be accepted. Locations: **Pierz:** Friday, Jan. 29, 10 am to 12 pm at Fellowship Bible Church, 12876 MN-25, Pierz, MN 56364. **Little Falls:** Friday, Jan. 8, 10 to 11 am at Little Falls Senior Center, 510 7th St NE, Little Falls, MN 56345.

ST. JOSEPH'S NEWS AND ACTIVITIES:

SAT. Jan. 9th @ 4:30 p.m., & SUN. Jan. 10th @ 8:00 a.m.

Weekday Lector: Harvey Kimman

Communion Ministers:

Sat. Jan. 9- Kelly Becker & Michelle Litke

Sun. Jan. 10- Wanda Kapsner & Marvin Kimman

LECTORS FOR JANUARY:

Sat. – Tony Sauer, **Sun. –** Mark Fyten

USHERS FOR JANUARY:

Sat. – Dennis Zajac, Robbie Becker, JD Folger, & Jon Stumpf.

Sun. – Clint Kimman, James Gruber, Dan Loscheider, & Jeff Virnig

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST: *Jack Thomas*, son of Andrew and Emily (Okroi) Leidenfrost, was baptized on Sunday, December 27th. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS/WOMEN NEWS:

*We are still looking for someone to take the Vice President position for 2021. It is only a one-year position followed by one year as president. It would be greatly appreciated if someone would step up and help us out. Please contact Barb Zajac at 320-310-3267 with any questions you may have.

*Please use the January pink envelope in your St. Joseph's parish weekly envelopes for Christian M/W annual dues (\$5 per year) and place them in the drop box at the parish office or feel free to drop in the regular collection basket. Thank You.

****NOTE**** Due to the governor's restrictions regarding COVID, we are *cancelling* our January 6th, 2021 mass and meeting. The next meeting will be held in *April*. Please watch the bulletin for further details. Any questions you may have, please contact Barb Zajac @320-310-3267.

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.

