

May 16, 2021 *The Ascension of the Lord*

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BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE All articles for the bulletin are due by noon on Wednesday. Please e-mail Saint Paul articles to stpauls@hcinet.net and Saint Michael articles to stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net. The business office reserves the right to edit articles as time and space allows.

From Father Kasel

Praised be Jesus Christ through Mary!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

The month of May is dedicated to increased devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Let us ask Jesus and St. Joseph to teach us to practice great love for the Immaculate Heart of Mary!

This Sunday we celebrate the Mystery of the Ascension of our Lord into Heaven. This week I share with you a meditation on the Ascension of our Lord. I encourage you to reflect over this message a few times this week:

“Jesus awaits us in Heaven - Christ’s glorious exaltation culminates in the Ascension: According to the Gospel of St. Luke, the last gesture of our Lord on earth was to give a blessing (Luke 24:51). The Eleven had gone, as Jesus had told them to, from Galilee to the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem. On seeing the Risen Christ once more they fell down before Him as their Master and their God and *worshipped Him* (cf Matthew 28:17). Now they are much more conscious of what they had for some time believed in their hearts and confessed with their lips: that their Master was the Messiah (Matthew 16:18). They were delighted and full of joy at having their Lord and their God so near. After the forty days spent in His company, they could be witnesses to what they had seen and heard. The Holy Spirit would confirm in them the teachings of Jesus and would lead them to the complete Truth.

The Master spoke to them as only God could: *Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to Me’* (Matthew 28:18). Jesus confirmed the Faith of those who worshipped Him and taught them that the power they were to receive was a sharing in His own Divine Power. The power to forgive sins, and to bring about a rebirth through Baptism is the power of Christ Himself, given now to His Church. The mission of the Church is to continue always the work of Christ, to teach men Divine Truths and make known the demands these Truths impose, to help men follow God’s way through the grace of the sacraments.

He said to them... ‘You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judaea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth’. And when He said this, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight (Acts 1:7-9). Thus does St. Luke describe for us the Ascension in the *Acts of the Apostles*.

He withdrew from their sight little by little. The Apostles remained for a long while, looking up as Jesus ascended majestically until a cloud took Him out of their sight. It was the cloud that signifies the presence of God (cf Exodus 13:22; Luke 9:34 ff). In St. John Chrysostom’s words: *It was a sign that Jesus had entered Heaven* (St. John Chrysostom, Homilies on the Acts of the Apostles, 2). Jesus’ life on earth finished not with His death on the Cross but with His Ascension into Heaven. It is the last of the mysteries of His life here on earth. It is a redemptive mystery which together with His Passion, Death and Resurrection make up the Paschal

Welcome to the Churches of

St. Paul &

St. Michael



We are happy that you are here! If you are new to our parishes, please call or stop at the Parish Office. We would love to meet you and answer any questions that you might have!

SACRAMENTS

Confession - Saturday 4:00pm at St. Michael; Sunday 8:25am at St. Paul and 8:00am before daily weekday Holy Mass at both parishes.

Baptism - Please contact the parish office.

Matrimony - Please call Father Kasel at least six months prior to make arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick - This is for someone who is seriously ill, dealing with major surgery or infirm. Please contact Father Kasel to make arrangements.

WEEKEND HOLY MASS SCHEDULE:

Church of Saint Paul - Sunday Confessions at 8:25am, Rosary at 8:25am, Mass at 8:45am

Church of Saint Michael - Saturday Confessions at 4:00pm, Rosary at 4:35pm, Mass at 5:00pm

Church of Saint Michael - Sunday Mass at 7:00am, Rosary at 10:05am, Mass at 10:30am

WEEKDAY HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Church of Saint Paul - Tuesday and Thursday Confession 8am & Mass 8:30am, Rosary at 8:10am before Mass

Church of Saint Michael - Wednesday and Friday Confession 8am and Mass 8:30am

Mystery. It was fitting that those who saw Christ die amid insults, scoffing and mockery on the Cross should see Him now exalted. They see fulfilled now the words Jesus had one day spoken to them: *I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God* (John 20:17). And again: *Now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to Thee* (John 17:11).

We meditate on the Ascension of our Lord into Heaven in the second Glorious Mystery of the Rosary. In the words of the Founder of Opus Dei: *Jesus has gone to the Father. – Two Angels in white approach us and say, Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up to Heaven? (Acts 1:11) Peter and the others go back to Jerusalem – ‘cum gaudio magno’ – with great joy (Luke 24:52). It is fitting that the Sacred Humanity of Christ should receive the homage, praise and adoration of all the hierarchies of the Angels and of all the legions of the Blessed in Heaven* (St. Jose Escriva, *Holy Rosary*, Second Glorious Mystery).

His Ascension strengthens and nourishes our desire for Heaven. The hope of Heaven should be fostered: In a sermon to commemorate today’s solemnity, St. Leo the Great said: *Today we are not only made possessors of Paradise but with Christ we have ascended, mystically but also really, to the highest Heavens and have won through Christ a grace more wonderful than the one we had lost* (St. Gregory the Great, *Homily I on the Ascension*).

The Ascension strengthens and nourishes our hope of attaining Heaven. It invites us always to lift up our hearts, (cont. on pg. 3)

The next Holy Hour for Women will be on **Sunday, May 23**, at 6:00pm at Church of St. Michael, Pine Island. All women invited!

Congratulations to these children who recently received their First Holy Communion:



Peyton Brown
Elizabeth Charron
Fable Fuller
Conrad Holmstadt
Jacobus Keller
Augustine Lorentz
Sonia Ocariz
Alyvia Reiter
Thomas Ring

Please keep our children in your prayers!

WEEKLY TITHING for May 8-9, 2021

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 4,498.00
Plate:	\$ 1,155.75
EFT:	\$ 432.50
Total:	\$ 6,086.25

Kitui Mission Collection: \$ 133.00

Cemetery Collection: The weekend of **May 22-23** there will be a second collection at each parish to support the upkeep of the respective parish cemetery. Please consider donating to honor our beloved dead and keep the parish cemeteries looking beautiful!

Thank you! Thank you to everyone that purchased flowers on Mother's Day to benefit the Goodhue County MCCL (MN Citizens Concerned for Life). With your help we were able to sell 71 plants and 5 corsages, and sent on Additional \$110 to support MCCL. May God bless your generosity.

PENTECOST SUNDAY SEQUENCE

(Veni, Sancte, Spiritus)

Come, Holy Spirit, come!
 And from your celestial home
 Shed a ray of light divine!
 Come, Father of the poor!
 Come, source of all our store!
 Come, within our bosoms shine.
 You, of comforters the best;
 You, the soul's most welcome guest;
 Sweet refreshment here below;
 In our labor, rest most sweet;
 Grateful coolness in the heat;
 Solace in the midst of woe.
 O most blessed Light divine,
 Shine within these hearts of yours,
 And our inmost being fill!
 Where you are not, we have naught,
 Nothing good in deed or thought,
 Nothing free from taint of ill.
 Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
 On our dryness pour your dew;
 Wash the stains of guilt away:
 Bend the stubborn heart and will;
 Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
 Guide the steps that go astray.
 On the faithful, who adore
 And confess you, evermore
 In your sevenfold gift descend;
 Give them virtue's sure reward;
 Give them your salvation, Lord;
 Give them joys that never end. *Alleluia.*



Prayer to St. Joseph: *Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.*



Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls - pray for me. Amen.

†**ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT**†
Can you spend an hour with Jesus?



Adoration is held at St. Paul, Zumbrota on Tuesdays from 9am-5pm and St. Michael, Pine Island on Wednesdays from 9am-5pm.

Pine Island Food Shelf: The items requested for **May:** Ketchup/ Mustard and Salad Dressings

HOLY MASS TIMES

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass
 9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, May 21, 2021

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass

Saturday, May 22, 2021

4:00pm-4:50pm Confessions
 5:00pm Holy Mass

Sunday, May 23, 2021

7:00am Extraordinary Form Holy Mass
 10:30am Holy Mass

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

May 19, 2021 The Bermudez Families
May 21, 2021 Robert Monosmith
May 22, 2021 †Holy Souls in Purgatory
May 23, 2021 (EF)Carol Berns (J. Meyer)
May 23, 2021 Parishioners



Immaculate Conception Church of rural Kellogg with have a Spring Take-Out Lunch available for a free-will donation on Sunday, May 30 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Menu includes pork loin sandwiches, baked beans, coleslaw, chips, cookie, milk, and water. There will also be a preview/inspection of items on their online consignment auction being held from May 23 through June 1. Go to www.plainviewauctions.com for more information on the auction.

CHURCH OF SAINT PAUL NEWS

(From *Father Kasel*...from pg. 1) as the preface of the Holy Mass says, and seek the things that are above. Our hope is very great because Christ Himself has gone to prepare a dwelling place for us (cf John 14:2).

Jesus is in Heaven with His glorified Body, with the signs of His Redemptive Sacrifice (Revelation 5:6) and with the marks of His Passion, marks which Thomas could see and touch, marks which bring about our salvation. The Sacred Humanity of Christ has its natural place in Heaven but He who gave His life for us awaits us there. *Christ awaits us. We are 'citizens of Heaven' (Phil 3:20), and at the same time fully-fledged citizens of this earth, in the midst of difficulties, injustices and lack of understanding, but also in the midst of the joy and serenity that comes from knowing that we are children of God... If, in spite of everything, Jesus' ascension into Heaven leaves a certain taste of sadness in our souls, let us go to His Mother, as the Apostles did. 'They returned to Jerusalem... and they prayed with one mind... together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus (St. Jose Escriva, Christ is passing by, 126).* The hope of Heaven will fill our day with joy. We will imitate the Apostles who, in the words of St. Leo the Great, *benefitted so greatly from the Ascension of our Lord that all that beforehand had caused them fear now caused them joy. From that moment on, their souls were fixed in contemplation on the Divinity seated at the right hand of the Father; the very vision of His Body was no obstacle to their believing with their minds illumined by Faith that Christ had not separated Himself from His Father when He descended, and had not separated Himself from His disciples when He ascended (St. Leo the Great, Sermon 74, 3).*

The Ascension and the Christian's Apostolic Mission: *And while they were gazing into Heaven as He went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into Heaven? This Jesus, who was taken from you into Heaven, will come in the same way as you saw Him go into Heaven' (Acts 1:11). Like the Apostles, we remain partly perplexed and partly saddened at His departure. It is not easy, in fact, to get accustomed to the physical absence of Jesus. I am moved when I think that, in an excess of love, He has remained with us, even when He has gone away. He has gone to Heaven and, at the same time, He gives Himself to us as our nourishment in the Sacred Host. Still, we miss His human speech, His way of acting, of looking, of smiling, of doing good. We would like to go back and regard Him closely again, as He sits down at the edge of the well, tired from His journey (cf John 4:6); as He weeps for Lazarus (cf John 11:35); as He prays for a long time (cf Luke 6:12); as He feels pity for the crowd (cf Matt 15:32; Mark 8:2)*

It has always seemed logical to me that the most Holy Humanity of Christ should ascend to the glory of the Father. The Ascension has always made me very happy. But I think that the sadness that is particular to the day of the ascension is also a proof of the love we feel for Jesus Christ, our Lord. He is God made man, perfect man, with flesh like ours, with blood like ours in His veins. Yet He leaves us and goes up to Heaven. How can we help but miss His presence (St. Jose Escriva, Christ is passing by, 117)?

The angels told the apostles that it was now time for them to begin the task before them, that there was not a minute to be wasted. With the Ascension Christ's earthly mission comes to a close, and ours, as His disciples, begins. It is good that, today in our prayer, we hear the words with which Jesus intercedes for us before His Father: *I do not pray that Thou shouldst take them out of the world (John 17:15), out of our proper place in society, out of our job or family, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil one.* Jesus wishes each of us to remain in His place, sanctifying the world from within, improving it and placing it at the feet of God. Only thus will the world be a place where human dignity is valued and respected, a place where men live in peace, in true peace, the peace which is so closely linked to God.

Today's feast reminds us that our concern for souls is a response to a command of love given to (cont. on pg. 4)

WEEKLY TITHING for May 9, 2021

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 1,125.00
Plate:	\$ 49.00
Total:	\$ 1,174.00

Cemetery Collection: The weekend of **May 23** there will be a second collection at each parish to support the upkeep of the respective parish cemetery. Please consider donating to honor our beloved dead and keep the parish cemeteries looking beautiful!

Spiritual Communion Prayer:

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Most Holy Eucharist. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally in the Most Holy Eucharist, please come at least spiritually into my heart now. I spiritually embrace You and choose to unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You and Your Love. Thank You, Jesus! I love You! Amen.



WORDS TO LIVE BY:

"Out of compassion for us He descended from Heaven and although He ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in Him by grace." St. Augustine.

"As the prophet says, *Ascending on high He led captivity captive; He gave gifts to men.* The undoubted meaning of these words is this: that since the devil led the human race captive, our Lord, by wresting it from him, took it captive Himself, and as the prophet tells us, led that very captivity to the heights of Heaven. Both captivities do indeed bear the same name, but they differ one from the other. The devil's captivity means enslavement; Christ's, on the contrary, means restoration to freedom." St. Maximus of Turin "Moses brought out of Egypt a timid nation, and in the space of forty years trained it to be full of valor for the task of conquering the promised land; Christ in forty days trains His Apostles to be bold and patient instead of cowards. *They mourned and wept* at the beginning of the season, but at the end they are full of courage for the good fight; their spirits mount high with their Lord, and when He is received out of their sight, and their own trial begins, *they return to Jerusalem with great joy, and are continually in the temple, praising and blessing God.*" St. John Henry Newman "We are of such value to God that He came to live among us... and to guide us home. He will go to any length to seek us, even to being lifted high upon the Cross to draw us back to Himself. We can only respond by loving God for His love." St. Catherine of Siena

HOLY MASS TIMES

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass

9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, May 20, 2021

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass

Sunday, May 23, 2021

8:20am Rosary/8:25am Confessions

8:45am Holy Mass - On 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of the month
populum; 2nd & 4th ad Orientem

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

May 18, 2021 †Margaret Theresa Huneke

May 20, 2021 †Betty Lou Yarke

May 23, 2021 Parishioners



NEWS FROM SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT PAUL

(from pg. 3) *us by our Lord. As He goes up to Heaven, Jesus sends us out as His witnesses throughout the whole world. Our responsibility is great, because to be Christ's witness implies first of all that we should try to behave according to His doctrine, that we should struggle to make our actions remind others of Jesus and His most lovable personality* (St. Jose Escriva, *Christ is passing by*, 122).

Those we live and work with, those we come in contact with, should find us loyal, sincere, joyful and hardworking. We should behave as people who fulfill their duties honestly and live as children of God in the ups and downs of each day. The ordinary norms of courtesy (how we greet others, our cordiality and spirit of service), which for many are merely conventional and external, have to be in us the fruit of charity and an expression of real interest in someone else.

Jesus departs, but He remains close to each of us. In a special way we find Him in the Tabernacle, perhaps in one not far from where we live or work. Let us have recourse to Him there, even though often we cannot go physically but only with our heart, and ask Him to help us in our apostolic endeavours. Let us tell Him that He can count on us to make known His teaching everywhere we go.

The Apostles returned to Jerusalem in the company of Mary. With her, they awaited the coming of the Holy Spirit. Let us too prepare for the coming of Pentecost staying close to our Lady." (From: *In Conversation with God by Francis Fernandez*)

Through the intercession of Mary, Queen of Heaven, St. Joseph, St. Michael and St. Paul, may God bless grant us the grace to desire Heaven each day!

In Christ through Mary,
Fr. Kasel

Join the Archdiocesan Synod Journey this Fall

How can we as members of the Body of Christ in the Church better pass-on our beautiful Catholic Faith - whether in our homes or in the broader world? The Archdiocesan Synod kicks into high gear this coming fall! Your input is needed to help Archbishop Hebda chart the course for our local Church. We will be forming small groups in order to discuss and give feedback on priorities within each Synod focus area. More details will come this summer! See more about the Synod focus areas at archspm.org/synod.

PRO-LIFE QUOTE:

"Not even one abortion per week is acceptable. Not one per month. Not one per year. Not one in our lifetime...The dignity of the human person begins at the moment of conception, not at birth. The dignity, as recognized by the signers of the Declaration of Independence, is bestowed by the Creator, and no one has the right to destroy innocent unborn life." Archbishop Samuel Aquila



"God, the Lord of life, has entrusted to men the noble mission of safeguarding life, and men must carry it out in a manner worthy of themselves. Life must be protected with the utmost care from the moment of conception: abortion and infanticide are abominable crimes." [nefanda sunt crimina]

Vatican Council II, Church in the Modern World #51

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<p>Safe Environment: The Archdiocese of St. Paul/ Minneapolis requires all volunteers who interact with minors or vulnerable adults to complete the Essential 3 (background check, Code of Conduct, and VIRTUS training) before beginning their service, and to renew every three years while serving. Please contact the Safe Environment Coordinator for details on how to register for a VIRTUS class, complete the Essential 3, or do updates.</p>		<p>Parish Safe Environment Coordinator: Sara McNamara St. Michael: 507-356-4280 stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net St. Paul: 507-732-5324 stpauls@hcinet.net</p>	<p>Church of St. Michael Cemetery For Plot Information Call the Parish Office 507-356-4280</p>	<p>Church of St. Paul Cemetery For Plot Information Call the Parish Office 507-732-5324</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>"Remember To Pray For Our Beloved Departed."</i></p>				