PARISH MISSION

St. Michael’s Parish is a welcoming community of Catholic Christians, rich in tradition. We are inspired by the Holy Spirit and guided by the Word of God. We exist as a visible witness of Christ through worshipping, educating, evangelizing and serving.

Rosary: (Month of May)
Monday-Friday 3:00 pm

Mass:
Monday-Thursday: 7:15 am, 5:15 pm
Friday: 7:15 am, 12:10 pm
Saturday: 7:15 am, 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm

Confession:
Monday-Thursday: 7:00 am, 4:45 pm
Friday: 7:00 am
Saturday: 7:00 am, 4-4:50 pm, 7:30-8pm

Church Information

Physical Address:
524 5th Ave. N.,
Grand Forks, ND 58203

Telephone:
(701) 772-2624 | Parish Office
(701) 772-2282 | Religious Ed Office
(701) 772-1822 | School Office

Email:
parishoffice@stmichaelsgf.com
bulletin@stmichaelsgf.com
For bulletin announcements Deadline Mondays, 1:00 pm

Clergy:
Fr. Gerard Braun (Pastor)
Fr. Robert Keller

www.stmichaelschurchgf.com
PARISH INFORMATION

DIRECTIONS
FOR ATTENDING MASS

Note: Ushers will be escorting you into the church and seating you. Please maintain 6 feet social distance while waiting to be ushered to your seat.

• **Use main entrance to enter and exit the Church**
  
  The Courtyard entrance is restricted for those who are unable to navigate the front steps.

• **Wear a Mask** at all times, except when receiving Holy Communion  (Masks not required for Children 2 & under)

• **Maintain a distance of 6 feet** with anyone from outside your home

• **Sanitize your hands** when you come in the Church
  
  Bring your own sanitizer from home if you have

• **Do not congregate on the main steps** after Mass
  
  (We want a clear path for people exiting the church)

• **Be prepared to attend another Mass** in case the church reaches full capacity

WE ❤ TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU!

**TEXT**

MichaelGF

TO 84576

OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT

stmichaelgf.flocknote.com

SCRIP GIFT CARDS
PURCHASES

To purchase, please call the Parish Office (701) 772-2624 to see if we have what you need. If we do have the cards on hand, we will have you write out your check or bring the correct amount of cash and do a hand off in the main entrance.

PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

The Parish Office remains closed to the public, however the lobby doors are open to pick up/drop off items.

*The office will close at 12:00 pm each Friday throughout the summer.*

Summer Office Hours
Mon - Thurs: 9:00 am-3:00 pm
Fridays: 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

Note:
The Office will be closed on Memorial Day

Memorial Day

**Mass at St. Michael's**
Monday, May 25th: 7:15 am
(No 3:00 pm Rosary; No 5:15 pm Mass)

**Calvary Cemetery North Mass**

Permission has been granted by Bishop Folda to celebrate Masses publicly, including the celebration of Mass outdoors. All celebrations must take into account the communities provisions for social distancing along with proper precautions to inhibit the spread of the virus.

Mass will be celebrated at Calvary North Cemetery on Memorial Day, May 25th at 10am. Calvary Cemetery North is located at the corner of North Columbia Road and Gateway Drive. Please bring a lawn chair.

Sacred Heart parish is the host this year. If inclement weather, Mass will be at Sacred Heart Church in East Grand Forks.

Flowers, wreaths, or other decorations may be placed on the graves beginning on May 19 but must be removed before June 2nd. Your cooperation is needed as these items affect our ability to keep all areas mowed and looking beautiful. Thank you in advance.

**Thank You Note**

We received a note from Naomi Beauclair thanking us for offering holy hours for vocations and adoration for those discerning their vocation. She wrote: “I am truly grateful for this apostolate of your parish. As a postulant-nun enclosed and given to prayer, I was edified to be prayed for by those “in the world” of my home diocese. May God reward everyone involved in this essential prayer ministry.”

**Beginning Experience**

The B. E. Weekend scheduled for June, 2020, at the Retreat Center in Hankinson has been cancelled.

So the next Beginning Experience Weekend will be this November 20-22, 2020, at Maryvale, Valley City. For more information please contact Frank (218) 790-4202, Marlene (218) 998-4300, or Jason (701) 840-8951. Also check the website: beginningexperience-easternnd.org.

**3rd Annual Rural Life Celebration**

Please join the parishioners of St. Philip Neri in Napoleon on **Sunday, July 12, 2020** at Frank & Helen Braun Farm, north of Napoleon. Guests may begin to arrive at 1:30pm. Blessing of land, animals, and farm machinery will begin at 1:45pm followed by a 2:00pm Mass on the farm. A meal and entertainment will follow. The farm is located 3 miles North of Napoleon on ND Hwy 3. For more information visit [www.fargodiocese.org/rural-life](http://www.fargodiocese.org/rural-life). Please RSVP at: (701) 754-2860 or [evangelize@bektel.com](mailto:evangelize@bektel.com). Remember to bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. You may also bring a container of soil from your fields or garden to be blessed. This event is FREE. We will follow North Dakota state guidelines for COVID-19 protections.

**Made for Greatness Men’s Retreat**

This July 17-19, the Diocese of Fargo will be hosting this retreat at Stiklestad Lodge near Fort Ransom, ND. Monsignor Gregory Schlesselmann and Father Neil Pfeifer will lead men deep into the heart of God and will equip them to experience anew His transforming power and presence. The cost of the retreat is $200. Men can find out more or register by visiting [www.fargodiocese.org/mfg](http://www.fargodiocese.org/mfg).

**Stuck at home?**

Make sure to fill out your 2020 Census online. Your answers to the census questionnaire create the data for cities and states to receive federal funding for resources and programs. Data is used to improve roads, create jobs, and so much more.

**Respond today at 2020census.gov or call 844-330-2020**

Shape your future

[Start Here](http://www.census.gov)
FIRST READING
When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. (Acts 1:9)

PSALM
God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord. (Ps 47) or Alleluia.

SECOND READING
May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. (Eph 1:17-23)

GOSPEL
“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” (Mt 28:19)


GOSPEL MEDITATION
Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A pair of ducks found their way to the same little corner of the property year after year. Sheltered by a little grove of trees, they quickly made their preparations to build a nest, lay eggs, and welcome in a new family. Then one year, only one of the ducks came to that little corner. She went about the business of building a nest, but this time, she was clearly unsettled. She would wander around, sometimes seemingly without purpose, almost hoping perhaps that her mate might come along. But, she remained alone. There were many times when we could hear her “crying”, mourning her loneliness and lack of purpose, sitting on a batch of eggs that would never hatch. One day, she quietly left that little corner never to return again.

Many human beings approach life this way. We silently grieve our loneliness, lack of direction, and sense of purpose. Maybe life once had meaning for us, but nothing seems to claim us and settle our restlessness any longer. We wander around looking and hoping for someone or something to come our way. We may even sob at times, wailing as we sit with the misery of our pain. Will happiness ever come our way again? Or will we simply leave where we are never to return again? Many are lost, wandering souls who are not quite sure where to settle or where to make a home.

We are meant to be in Christ. This glorious feast of the Ascension shows us, with clear vision, who Jesus really is! Understanding ourselves in Christ really changes things up and reorients us to our greater purpose, mission, and meaning. We are part of the cosmic wonder of creation and part of a bigger plan and mystery, destined to be much more than what we now know ourselves to be. Could Jesus’ friends know who he would become? If we can find the Christ present within and see the Christ bursting forth in all creation and beyond, then we can come to know our truth and understand where our home and life is meant to be.

Advancing upon the blessing of each new day with the certain knowledge that you are an unconditionally loved child of God gives you the axis and the safe harbor to cope with whatever comes your way. The gift of joy will be yours, and you can discover your true meaning and purpose. Look within, look without, look above, and look below. You are not alone. Trust that God will lead you where you need to be and transform you into who you really are.
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP
Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments
We Are Family

I am looking forward to an empty nest. It isn’t that I do not love my children or that I will not miss them. I am simply looking forward to catching up on life. I look forward to times when there is no one else there except for my wife. It will be a time to ourselves that I hope will be time well spent. I look forward to the days when my children will visit (with grandchildren, I hope!). There will be occasions we visit them as well (to see grandchildren, I hope!). The truth is, even though we will not be living in the same house, we will never be too far from one another. We belong to each other no matter what.

That is how it is with family. When we become disciples of Jesus Christ, we belong to him. We are family. Our greatest gift to give is our very selves to one another. Jesus gave all of himself to us. Even though he ascended to his Heavenly Father, he remains with us in love and grace, especially in the Holy Eucharist. He has shown us how to love and how to be family. Even when we cannot see him, Jesus remains with us. Hopefully, we can follow in that example and give of ourselves fully and be there for those we love whenever they need us, especially if they need us to watch the grandchildren. (It is a ways away, but I want to plant the seeds now!)

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MT5

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING
Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!

WHY DO WE DO THAT?
Catholic Life Explained:
Fast Before Communion?

Question:
Why are Catholics required to fast before Communion?

Answer:
How we prepare for an important event helps us with the intentionality of our actions and raises our awareness. We prepare our house for guests. We wash our car before an important trip. We create a nursery for a newborn child. All of these actions heighten our senses for what is about to come.

The fast required by canon law before holy Communion has its roots in Jewish spiritual practices. We fast for cleansing and to demonstrate our reliance on God. Catholics used to fast for much longer periods of time, but it was Pope Paul VI in 1964 who set the time at one hour in an attempt to encourage people to receive the holy Eucharist more frequently. That one hour observance allows us to pause and reflect on what we will participate in in the very near future. We deny our bodies so that we can focus more clearly on the Body of Christ that we will consume.
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QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK
Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading
The story of the Church as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles begins with Jesus’ final instructions and the Apostles’ witness of his ascension into heaven. What role does the ascension of Jesus play in your understanding of “Church?”

Second Reading
Paul speaks of the unity of the church using the metaphor of the “body” of Christ. Where do you see the Church most united today?

Gospel Reading
Prior to his ascension, Jesus’ promise to the disciples was his abiding presence “until the end of the age.” When do you experience Jesus most present to you?

GOD ASCENDS HIS THRONE WITH SHOUTS OF JOY.

PSALM 47

“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

— Mt 28:18b-19


SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020 | THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP**

**May 17, 2020**
Weekly Amount Collected ...... ........$30,786
Weekly Amount Needed ..............$20,924
(To Reach the Weekly Budget Goal)

**Weekly Collection** $ 9,862

Year-To-Date Amount Collected $931,029
Year-To-Date Amount Needed $962,512
(To Reach the Annual Budget Goal)

**Year-To-Date Collection Deficit** ($31,483)

Annual Budget Goal ..................... $1,088,057

https://stmichaelsgf.weshareonline.org/

Mailing address: St. Michael's Parish Office,
418 N. 6th St., Grand Forks, ND 58203

It’s not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving.  ~Mother Teresa

Thank you for your generous hearts!

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, May 25—Memorial Day**
7:15 am †Allen Kunze

**Tuesday, May 26**
7:15 am †Norbert & Cecelia Vanyo
5:15 pm †John H. Halverson, Jr.

**Wednesday, May 27**
7:15 am †Lorraine Kosmatka
5:15 pm †Rodolfo Rivera

**Thursday, May 28**
7:15 am †Sharon Bredemeier
5:15 pm †Toni (Elston) Jellison

**Friday, May 29**
7:15 am †Rodolfo Rivera
12:10pm †Ed, Genevieve & Rodney Riske

**Saturday, May 30**
7:15 am †Sp. Int. DuWayne & Rhonda Heyd Family
5:00 pm †Michael L. Hoffart

**Sunday, May 31**
7:30 am †Roman & Julia Weber
9:00 am For the People
11:00 am †Jozo Kovacevic
5:00 pm †Margie Bergum

St. Michael’s School 5th Grade Graduation Parade