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 worshiping, educating, evangelizing and serving.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K-12

Early bird registration!

Register before August 1st for discount. Convenient online payment available!

Cost: $50.00 per student
($100 family cap)
After August 1st cost is $70.00 per child.

Visit our website for information!

Church Information

Mailing Address:
418 N. 6th St.
Grand Forks, ND 58203

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
Deacon: John Bredemeier

www.stmichaelschurchgf.com
Dear St. Michaels Parishioners,

It would be an understatement to express that I have encountered strong, and often differing opinions pertaining to navigating the circumstances of the Corona Virus. As we try to implement the best practices for keeping our parish safe through these turbulent waters, we are buffeted by strong winds from many directions.

Embedded within the controversy of wearing masks, and receiving our Lord in the hand or tongue, are layers of issues that fan the flames of strong perceptions, suspicions, and concerns such as, “Is the science surrounding the corona virus accurately reported?” “Has the virus become a political ploy behind some shadowy agenda?” “Are freedoms being sacrificed?” “Which doctors, experts, scientists are we to believe?” “Are we compassionate in protecting the most vulnerable. These are only a small number of a multitude of questions surrounding this virus.

My purpose in writing this letter is not an attempt to resolve all these issues, or set up an iron clad protocol for attending Mass. I am writing to express that this is a very complex issue, one which calls on us to be patient and understanding. As your Pastor, I want to encourage us all to remember that we are united in Jesus Christ. Our Lord prayed to the Father that we might all be one. Seeking unity in a pandemic environment is a unique challenge, but I pray we understand that our faith and worship of Christ is what will ultimately unite us.

I spoke with Bishop Folda this past Monday, and I want to clarify that we will continue to honor the guidelines he issued on June 12, 2020. These guidelines may be found on the Fargo Diocese website. In the guidelines, our Bishop did say communion may be received on the tongue, provided the priest sanitizes his hands prior to distributing to the next person. With respect to the Bishop’s recommendation, my perception is that for our parish, this would be a particularly challenging practice, as it would hold up the procession by the need to sanitize after every reception on the tongue. Therefore, our parishioners who wish to receive our Lord on the tongue will approach a designated Minister who will only distribute Holy Communion in that manner. A kneeler will be placed for Communion distribution to help identify it’s designation as the place for receiving our Lord on the tongue.

As for wearing a mask, I ask again that in charity the people of St. Michael’s, please wear a mask while attending Mass. I have been approached by several people who have shared that they are physically unable to wear a mask due to other health conditions, and I affirm and understand those circumstances. Nonetheless, while we cannot make it obligatory to wear a mask, I am asking that everyone who is able to, wear one out of compassion for our parishioners who are at risk, and out of charitable respect for those who have genuine concerns about the virus.

Consider that if my effort to wear a mask will help bring someone back to church to receive our Lord at Mass, then the little sacrifices I have made in charity will be a great thing. Regarding the reception of our Lord in Holy Communion, if we practice proper sanitizing, then respecting the rights of others to receive our Lord as their conscience dictates can help to bring unity not discord. We pray for the grace to understand and respect everyone’s conscience without denigrating the ritual practice of each other.

I want to thank all our people for your prayers as we continue to struggle through this crisis. The challenges and pressures this pandemic have placed upon our society and Christian culture are widespread. They are beginning to wear thin on our patience, endurance, and forbearance. Yet, thanks be to God for our faith that continually invites us to pray for growth in these virtues.

Finally, please know my door is open for discussion regarding any issues that are a concern to you or your family. Again, thank you, and may God bless us all as we continue to grow in unity with Christ our Lord.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr Gerard Braun
Pastor, St. Michaels Parish
**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP**

**July 19, 2020**

Weekly Amount Collected .......... $18,366  
Weekly Amount Needed ............. $20,925  
(To Reach the Weekly Budget Goal)  
Weekly Collection Deficit ....................... ($2,559)  

Year-To-Date Amount Collected        $55,423  
Year-To-Date Amount Needed           $62,775  
(To Reach the Annual Budget Goal)  
Year-To-Date Collection Deficit ............ ($7,352)  
Annual Budget Goal .......................... $1,088,100

https://stmichaelsgf.weshareonline.org/  
Mailing address:  St. Michael’s Parish Office, 418 N. 6th St., Grand Forks, ND 58203  
Thank you for your generous hearts!

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**Mass Schedule Temporary Adjustment**

While we await Deacon Grossman’s priestly ordination, August 8, 2020, we are making adjustments to our weekly Mass schedule. Here are the short-term, temporary changes:

**Monday 5:15 p.m. Mass—cancelled thru Aug. 10**  
• **Communion Services** (with Bishop Folda’s Permission)  
  Tuesdays at the 7:15 a.m. and Wednesdays at the 5:15 p.m. Masses thru August 11  

Thank you for your understanding with the above accommodations. Again, these schedule changes are only temporary.

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**Sexual Abuse Claims in Boy Scouts**

**Bankruptcy Notice**

Regardless of how old you are today or when the sexual abuse occurred, you need to file your claim by 5:00 pm (Eastern Time) on November 16, 2020.  
Anyone who was sexually abused during their time in Scouting, on or before February 18, 2020, must file a claim. This includes sexual abuse in connection with Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, or any entity or activity associated with Scouting. Sexual Abuse Claims include, but are not limited to: sexual misconduct, exploitation, or touching, sexual comments about a person or other behaviors that led to abuse, even if the behavior was not sexual or against the law, and regardless of whether you thought the behavior was sexual abuse or not. These acts could be between a (1) child and an adult or (2) child and another child.

You should file a claim using the Sexual Abuse Survivor Proof of Claim by Nov. 16, 2020. If you do not file a timely Sexual Abuse Claim, you may lose rights against BSA, BSA Local Councils or organizations that sponsored your troop or pack, including any right to compensation.

Download and file a claim at www.officialbsaclaims.com or call 1-866-907-2721 for help on how to file a claim by mail.

BSA will fund in-person counseling for current or former Scouts or their family. Please call 1-866-907-2721 to request in-person counseling or email: restructuring@scouting.org
DIRECTIONS FOR ATTENDING MASS

• 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

PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS
The Parish Office remains closed to the public, however the lobby doors are open to pick up/drop off items. Call ahead for Scrip!

The office closes at 12:00 pm each Friday throughout the summer.

Summer Office Hours
Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am-3:00 pm.
Fridays: 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon.
Closed Friday, July 3rd.

Wedding Banns
August 1:
  Brady Sullivan & Megan Cleveland

August 22:
  Courtney Hancock & Elizabeth Gruman

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WE TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU!
All that you need is a smart phone or Computer/iPad/tablet. Sign up today!
Flocknote has been an excellent communication tool for our parish. When we need to get the word out, we count on Flocknote!

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, July 27
7:15 am  Spec. Int. Blake & Emily Kvidt
5:15 pm  NO MASS

Tuesday, July 28
7:15 am  COMMUNION SERVICE
5:15 pm  †Lowell Schweigert

Wednesday, July 29
7:15 am  †Nora Denney
5:15 pm  COMMUNION SERVICE

Thursday, July 30
7:15 am  †Sharon Bredemeier
5:15 pm  †Dan Scheett

Friday, July 31
7:15 am  †Lowell Schweigert
12:10pm  †Adrian Kiedrowski

Saturday, August 1
7:15 am  †Bud Hursman
5:00 pm  †Michael L. Hoffart

Sunday, August 2
7:30 am  †Conner Sander
9:00 am  For the People
11:00 am  †Sharon Bredemeier
5:00 pm  †Deacon Bruce Bell

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