

### **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.

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on: Monday, December 27th Tuesday, December 28th Friday, December 31st

Wishing you a holy and Merry Christmas!



Welcome all who have come to worship our Lord in the holy sacrifice of Mass.

We are blessed to have you with us today!

## **December 26, 2021**



## THE HOLY FAMILY

610

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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## **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

Deadline: Mondays, 1:00 pm

#### Clergy:

Fr. Raymond Courtright (Pastor)
Fr. Jered Grossman
Deacon: John Bredemeier

www.stmichaelschurchgf.com

#### **Mass Schedule**

**Daily Mass:** Mon.-Thurs. 7:15 am/5:15pm

Friday: 7:15am, 12:10pm

Saturday: 7:15am

Weekend: Sat, 5:00 pm;

Sun, 7:30, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5 pm

#### Reconciliation

Monday-Saturday 7:00 am. (before daily Mass) Monday —Thursday 4:45 pm; (before daily Mass) Fridays: 11:50 am to 12:05 pm (before Mass) Saturday 4:00-4:50 pm & 7:30-8:00 pm

#### Live Stream

https://www.stmichaelschurchgf.com/live-stream https://www.facebook.com/St.MichaelsChurchGF/ https://www.youtube.com/channel/ UCNZjxzBU6jiL9JQQsYDEIjg

#### **Divine Mercy Chaplet**

Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet with us, after our daily 7:15 a.m. Mass. Via livestream directly after the 7:15 am Mass.

#### **Daily Rosary**

Monday through Saturday 6:40 am Join us at the church or follow us via live stream. The video will be available for you to pray anytime during the day.

#### Tuesday Eucharistic Adoration at St. Michael's Each week on Tuesdays, 8:00 am—9:00 pm

Please check our Master Calendar, available on our website, to see if a funeral or another event has been scheduled.

https://www.stmichaelschurchgf.com/parish-calendar

If interested in signing up for a weekly commitment, please do so at the following website:

https://adorationpro.org/michaelnd - click on "Weekly Commitment" and choose a time.

#### **Marriage Preparation**

Contact a priest at least 6 months in advance of the wedding date at 772-2624.

#### **Annulment & Marriage Validation**

If you are divorced and remarried, or never married in the Catholic Church, call the Parish Office and speak to a priest to learn more about this process with the Diocesan Tribunal.

#### **Joining the Catholic Church**

If you are hoping to become Catholic, please contact Fr. Grossman. He will meet with you, discuss the process and help you get started on your journey to becoming Catholic.

#### Membership and Registration

Welcome! We're glad you joined us today! If you are new to the area or to St. Michael's Church, and are interested in learning more about our parish, or would like to become a registered member of our church, please fill out the registration form on our website: stmichaelschurchgf.com.

If you have questions about registration, email: jackiesimon411@gmail.com.

#### Address/Phone number Updates

Please help! If you are moving away, or have address or phone number updates, please email: parishoffice@stmichaelsgf.com.

## On the Lighter Side

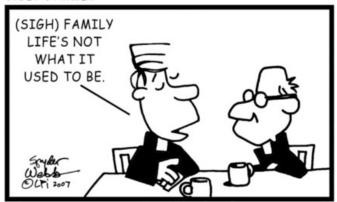
#### Call Ahead

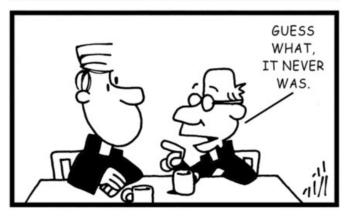
Father John was nervous when he cast Jimmy, the middle school class clown, as Joseph in the annual Christmas pageant. His fears were realized when Jimmy decided to do a little improvisation by pulling out his cell phone in the pageant's opening scene.

The astonished priest, who was narrating, asked, "What are you doing with your phone?"

Jimmy smiled and replied, "This year I'm phoning that inn to make a reservation!"

#### HOLY FAMILY





#### Sermon

"The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible."

George Burns

## **Holiday Mass Schedule**

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## Mary, Mother of God

(Not a holy day of obligation as previously advertised).

Saturday: January 1

Mass: 7:15 am, 11:00 am

(Vigil: Friday, Dec. 31st, 5:15 pm)

January 1st: Confessions at 6:40 am, 4:00 pm, 7:30 pm

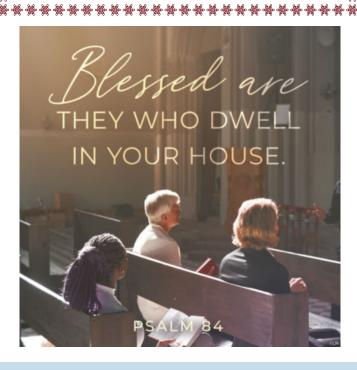
### **Epiphany of the Lord**

Saturday, January 1st

Mass: 5:00 pm

Sunday, January 2nd

Masses: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm



# MEN'S CLUB MONTH OF MONEY RAFFLE WINNERS!

DEC. 20: BRYAN LEE (#297)

DEC. 21: M/M TOM WILLIAMS

DEC. 22: KATIE STAUSS (#278)

Dec. 23: Nathan & Jennifer Modeen (#117)

DEC. 24: PATRICIA HEIDT (#054)

DEC. 25: PAM WHALEN (#351) \$500

DEC. 26: RON & KATHY VENJOHN (#188)

EACH WON \$125! CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS

TO EVERYONE WHO PURCHASED A TICKET!



## **Giving Tree Update!**

The Giving Tree was a great success again this year, THANKS to the love and kindness of St. Michael's parishioners. Through your generosity many folks in need will have joy this Christmas with presents and a food basket AND knowing that they really do matter to us. It does take a lot of work behind the scenes to put this all together and make it happen down to the minutest detail. So thank you to the crew headed by a wonderful organizer, Mary Giltner. The statistics tell the story: 33 families were served with 114 gifts and food baskets; St. Anne's received 12 food baskets; 88 gifts total for St. Gianna's, Women's Pregnancy Center, and Northland Rescue Center. Thank you all again for the gracious act of mercy. Merry Christmas! Dcn John Bredemeier

### **Blue Envelope Sunday**

Sunday, January 2nd (the *first* Sunday of the month) is "Blue Envelope Sunday." Blue Envelopes can be found at the entrances of the church or you can use a plain white envelope and write "Blue Envelope" on the front. Thank you for your support.



# WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

#### Question:

I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

#### Answer:

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

### **COMMUNITY**

#### **ATTENTION LADIES**

Come join our group based on Faith, Service, and Friendship. We are the KC Ladies! You do not need a family member to be affiliated with the KC Men's group in order to join. We meet monthly in the evening from Sept. to May (summers off). We have fun with "easy to do" projects, go on tours, host Guest Speakers, and raise money to donate to local charitable organizations and our Catholic Schools.

This is an open invitation for you to please join us. For questions please call Carol @ 701-740-5143 or Marge @ 509-844-3397. God Bless you lots!!! Merry Christmas!!!

### "KC LADIES RAFFLE"

The KC Ladies Raffle Tickets are now available. Only 250 tickets will be sold at \$5.00 each. You can win numerous times and don't need to be present to win.

The seven drawings are from March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022, to March 19<sup>th</sup> 2022 (5 drawings for \$50 and 2 drawings for \$100). The proceeds go to support the youth at St. Michael's School,

Holy Family/St. Mary's School, and Sacred Heart School.

The tickets are available from: KC Lady Members, or at St. Michael's Pastoral Center.

Permit # 760286



#### LIVE THE LITURGY

#### Inspiration for the week

It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.



#### FIRST READING

"I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request.

Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD."

(1 Sm 1:27-28)



#### **PSALM**

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord. (Ps 84)



#### SECOND READING

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

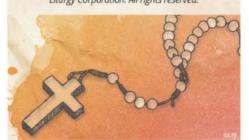
And so we are. (1 In 3:1)



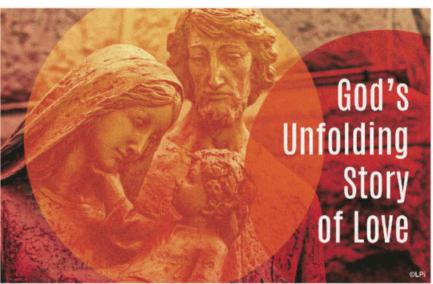
#### GOSPEL

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. (Lk 2:46)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



## **WORSHIP & MEDITATION**



#### GOSPEL MEDITATION

#### **Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture**

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.

### WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

Check next weekend's bulletin for current financial information.

Stewardship Giving for	Dec 8, 2021
Amount Collected	\$4,046.12

Stewardship Giving for	Dec 12, 2021
Weekly Amount Collected	\$21,612
Weekly Amount Needed	\$21,623
(To Reach the Weekly Budget Goal)	
Weekly Collection Deficit	(\$11)

Year-To-Date Amount Collected \$469,871 Year-To-Date Amount Needed \$518,952 (To Reach the Annual Budget Goal)

Year-To-Date Collection Deficit (\$49,081)

Annual Budget Goal \$1,124,400

Thank you for your generosity!

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If you need help, instructions are on the main page of our website.

Look for this button on the main page and see link to instructions right below it!

If you receive envelopes and don't use them, please let me know so I can have the company quit sending them. We get quite a few loose checks in the collection each week. If you wish, sign up for online giving and you won't have to look for your envelope or write out a check at the last minute!

Send an email to: parishoffice@stmichaelsgf.com

St. Anne's Living Center in Grand Forks is looking for two part time employees: A **Dietary**Aide and a Universal Worker (Laundry/PM
Aide/Receptionist - Temp to Permanent).
Call 701-746-9401 for more information or apply online at <a href="https://www.stannesguesthome.org">www.stannesguesthome.org</a>

### LITURGICAL LIFE



### **EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**

Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

#### All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

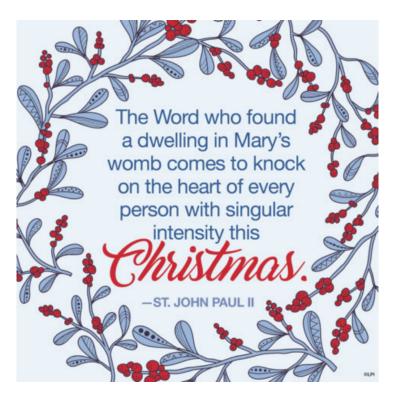
We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

### LITURGICAL ROLES

#### **Liturgical Ministers:**

Please update your profile on the Ministry scheduler to include your current address and phone number. That list is not connected to our parish database. Thank you!

Thank you for volunteering in this ministry. The current schedule was not available due to an earlier print deadline.



### Stewardship Moment

"See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." (1 JOHN 3:1)

During this season of giving, let us remember a beautiful gift that we have received – being children of God! As God's children, it's in our DNA that we share and express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children, other family members and friends that you love them, every day! Also, pray for those people who are different than you, those who you may not like or those that go out of their way to annoy you. Your prayers may be the start of a new friendship.

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

#### Monday, December 27

7:15 am Thomas & Allyson Moch 5:15 pm Jim & Laura Breen

#### **Tuesday, December 28**

7:15 am Kevin & Angie Leddige 9:30 am (Valley Senior Living) 5:15 pm †Lorraine Poitra

#### Wednesday, December 29

7:15 am †Norbert & Cecelia Vanyo

5:15 pm †Bill Schmisek

#### Thursday, December 30

7:15 am †Vernon & Jamie Ellenson 5:15 pm †Verdeen Leddige

#### Friday, December 31

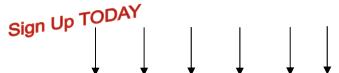
7:15 am †Patrick Hurley 5:15 pm †George & Tim Sattler

#### Saturday, January 1

7:15 am †Loretta Rasmussen 11:00 am †Peggy Freitag 5:00 pm Francis Bushaw Family

#### Sunday, January 2

7:30 am †Conner Sander 9:00 am †Elaine Rooker 11:00 am For the People 5:00 pm †Janice Sherlock-Smidt





Keep in touch with us via email and text!



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