

St. Michael's — St. Benedict — Canadian Martyrs

Cudworth

St. Benedict

Middle Lake

Roman Catholic Parishes

December 14th (Third Sunday of Advent) – December 21st (Fourth Sunday of Advent)



Fr. Benjamin Ezekwudo, Pastor– Email: bezekwudo@rcdos.ca Mobile: (306) 270-8592
Office/Rectory: St. Michael's Parish: 503 Main Street, Box 239 – Cudworth, SK S0K 1B0 **Phone:** (306) 256-3218
Fax: (306) 256-7000 **Email and e-Transfer:** smcudworth@rcdos.ca **Website** <https://www.saintsnorth.ca>
Office Hours: Tue/Fri: 9 –12noon (closed during Mass times); Thursday: 9^{AM}-4^{PM} **Administration:** Fr. Benjamin Ezekwudo, Teresa Richardson (IN ON THURSDAYS 9^{AM} – NOON), and Chara Sargeant (Bulletin)

Sunday Mass times December:

Saturday 5^{PM} Canadian Martyrs
 Sunday 9^{AM} St. Benedict
 Sunday 11^{AM} St. Michael's

Weekday Mass times (year round):

Tuesday 6:30^{PM} Haven
 Wednesday 10:30^{AM} Nursing Home
 Wednesday 1:30^{PM} Bethany
 Friday 9^{AM} St. Michael's

Low-gluten communion hosts are available. Please see Fr. before Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sat: 11^{AM} - 12^{PM} (noon) – St. Michael's
 Sat: 4:30^{PM} - 4:55^{PM}– St. Benedict (only when Mass falls on Saturday)
 By appointment: Contact Fr. Benjamin directly on his mobile

Eucharistic Adoration:

St. Michael's: Every Friday from Mass: 8^{AM} to 9^{AM} (Except for 1st Friday of the month, when it is after Mass: 9:30^{AM} to 12^{PM})

St. Michael's Haven: Every first Tuesday of the month, 5:30^{PM} to 6:30^{PM}

Marriage Prep: Please contact Fr. Benjamin at least one year prior to the desired date of marriage.

Mass Intentions: Please contact Fr. Benjamin directly. Suggested donation: \$10.00
 Fr. Benjamin is available on his mobile at any time outside Mass times for EMERGENCIES and to administer the sacrament of the **Anointing of the Sick.**

To request Communion to the Sick, Baptism, or Funeral, please call Fr. Benjamin at the office, or directly on his mobile.

Reminder: You can request the sacraments when you are in ANY hospital.

St. Michael's Sunday Masses can be followed at 91.3FM

ALL MASS INTENTIONS December 13th -21st

Dec. 13th - Saturday 5^{PM}

Canadian Martyrs: Rita Wright+/ Yvonne Taylor

Dec. 14th - Sunday 9^{AM}

St. Benedict: Glen & Doreen Schreiner+/ Laverne & Colleen Martinka

Dec. 14th – Sunday 11^{AM}

St. Michael's: Gary & Dona Lee Schmidt+/ Jim & Liz Wilde

Dec. 16th –Tues. 6:30^{PM}

St. Michael's Haven: Anna Gulka (birthday)

Dec. 17th -Wed. 10:30^{AM}

Cudworth Nursing Home: Clarence Palchinski+/ Eleanor

Dec. 17th –Wed. 1:30^{PM}

Bethany: John Lange+/ Phil Renneberg

Dec. 19th -Friday 9^{AM}

St. Michael's: Alvin & Catherine Reding, Norbert Pawluk+/ Sandara

Dec. 20th - Saturday 5^{PM}

Canadian Martyrs: Alphonse Schlosser+/ Arnold & Norma Fleischhacker

Dec. 21st - Sunday 9^{AM}

St. Benedict: Allan & Caroline Altman+/ Janice Fletcher

Dec. 21st – Sunday 11^{AM}

St. Michael's: Clarence Palchinski+/ Ryan & Sylvia

Cudworth School will be celebrating their Christmas Concert on December 17th at 7^{PM}



Advent Penitential/Confessions ~ December 18th @ 7^{PM}

Christmas Eve Children's Pageant before 7:30^{PM} Mass

Practice: Monday December 22nd & Tuesday December 23rd @ 10:30^{AM} at St. Michael's Parish

All are welcome to join!





ST. MICHAEL'S -503 Main Street,
Cudworth, SK. S0K 1B0
Mass Time – December: Sunday 11^{AM}

*Together we listen, receive, believe,
and serve from the heart of Jesus*

Parish Council: Fr. Benjamin Ezekwudo 2nd. **Term:** Grace Jungwirth (Chair), Glen Lingel (Vice Chair), Teresa Richardson (Secretary), Vince Dierker (K of C Representative), Stuart Kolla (Maintenance), Kyle Slobodian 1st. **Term:** Don Kolla, Catherine Mazurkewich, Audrey van der Gracht, Ida Rose Wilde

Finance Committee: Catherine Mazurkewich (Chair), Derreck Kolla, Michael Wilde, Lee Hauber

Cemetery Committee: Don Kolla (Chair), Ida-Rose Wilde, James Hauber, Raymond Jungwirth– For all cemetery related information: Teresa Richardson **Parish Covenant of Care Coordinator:** Grace Jungwirth

Knights of Columbus – Thursday, Jan. 8th

Rosary: 7^{PM} **Meeting:** 7:30^{PM}



CWL – Next meeting:

Tuesday, December 16th @ 7:15



Parish Council – Wed. Jan. 14th @ 7^{PM}

Fundraiser Bake Sale



December 16th from 1^{PM} – 5^{PM}

@ St. Michael's Haven



Donations to be dropped off before noon on Dec 16th. Donations to be wrapped and ready to go & labeled with suggested sell price. 100% of the proceeds go to the residents at the Haven.



Formed.org: A great online resource for inspiring movies and studies, audios, talks and e-books. Go to: <https://formed.org/signup>.

With Formed you will find video programs that explain the Catholic faith, explore the deepest meaning of marriage, Bible studies and other variety of topics.



Winter Clothes Collection



Parishioners are encouraged to bring winter clothes and drop them off in the east entrance of the parish. You may reach out to Kathleen Kolla for more details (306)233-7958

Congratulations to Terry Medernach for winning the Christmas Raffle Basket!

Thanks to those who donated and supported the Raffle!

VAN SERVICE – Winter Months

Anyone wanting to be picked up should contact the Parish Office (306) 256-3218 or Liz Wilde (306) 256-3673

Pick-up starts 1 hour before Mass

Sunday Mass Ministries

11^{AM} – Sunday, December 14th

Rosary: Phil **Ushers:** Danny, Darrel

Screens: Jill **Servers:** Camryn, Nora

Readers: 1st –Heide, 2nd – Barbara **POF** – Catherine

Offerings: John & Audrey

Eucharistic Minister: Morris & Roger

Counters: Garry, Catherine, Heide

Advent Penitential/Confessions ~

December 18th @ 7^{PM}

11^{AM} – Sunday, December 21st

Rosary: Glen **Ushers:** Garry, Edward, Leonard

Screens: Grace **Servers:** Brianna, Chelsea

Readers: 1st –Garry, 2nd –James

Prayers Of the Faithful – Kim

Offerings: James & Kim

Eucharistic Minister: Clarence & Danny

Counters: Dennis, Sylvia

7:30^{PM} – CHRISTMAS EVE

Youth Mass

Welcomers: Garry & Catherine **Rosary:** Phil

Ushers: James & Clarence **Screens:** TBD

Servers: Chelsea, Brianna **Readers:** 1st –Gage,

2nd – Camryn **Prayers Of the Faithful** – Cael

Offerings: TBD

Eucharistic Minister: Barbara, Roger, & Heide

11^{AM} – CHRISTMAS DAY

Welcomers: John & Audrey

Rosary: Glen **Ushers:** Darrell & Garry

Screens: TBD **Servers:** Chelsea, Brianna

Readers: 1st – Tammy, 2nd – Lee

Prayers Of the Faithful – Bernadette

Offerings: Roger, Bernadette, Tammy

Eucharistic Minister: Heide & Kathleen

11^{AM} – Sunday, December 28th

Rosary: Phil **Ushers:** Edward, Leonard

Screens: Ann **Servers:** Eric, Leo, Alynn

Readers: 1st –John v., 2nd – Verik

Prayers Of the Faithful – Teresa

Offerings: John & Audrey

Eucharistic Minister: Danny & Morris

Counters: Danny, Ann, Elaine

Come let us

Adore

Him





St. Michael's Christmas Flower Memorial Donations

Thank you to all that donated in memory of loved ones for flowers for Christmas. The flowers will beautify St. Michael's Church, as well as St. Michael's Haven Chapel. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

In Memory Of

- Joe, Dina, & Muriel Kolla & Mary Kjorlien
- Dave Hauber
- Deceased members of the Kohle & Lange Families
- Deceased members of Weisensel & Hrbacheck Families
- Herman Nienaber
- Ella & Mike Mechor, John & Alvina Medernach, Harry & Tekyla Dubyk
- Deceased members of the Kolla, Saxinger, Reaser, & Lobl Families
- Richard & Yolande Dierker
- Clarence Palchinski & Isabelle Osolinsky
- Deceased members of Billesberger & Andre Families
- Leon, Marie, & Raymond Beauregard
- Victor, Catherine, & Denis Jungwirth and Josef, Maria, Dieter Poschmann
- Mary, Virgil, Norman, Gerald, & Raymond Billesberger & John, Margaret, Tom & Anne van der Gracht
- Alvin & Catherine Reding, & Norbert Pawluk

Donated By:

Don & Kathleen Kolla
 Delores Hauber & Family
 Bernadette Lange
 Mary Weisensel
 Barbara Nienaber & Family
 Terry & Phil Medernach
 Darrell & Heide Kolla & Family
 Vince & Tammy Dierker
 Elenore Palchinski
 Leo & Darlene Billesberger
 Roger Beauregard
 Clarence & Margaret Jungwirth
 John & Audrey van der Gracht
 Sandra Pawluk



The Third Sunday of Advent

"Rejoice: the Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Savior means for us.

The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated *Veni* ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament.

The Third Sunday of Advent is known as *Gaudete* Sunday. The term *Gaudete* refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice." Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

The Advent Wreath

A third candle (pink) is lit on the Advent Wreath for the third Sunday of Advent. This candle, often called the Shepherd's Candle or the Joy Candle, represents joy, such as the joy the shepherds experienced when the angel told them that Christ was to be born.

"It is Christmas every time you speak out for life, and let God love others through you!" – Mother Teresa



Bishop's Annual Appeal

Goals for the year: St. Michael - \$13,310 St. Benedict - \$1,828 Canadian Martyrs - \$2,038

"Pilgrims of Hope Rooted in Prayer and Mission"

There is still time to make your gift and receive a charitable donation tax receipt for this year. Give online and/or find more information at: <https://dscf.ca/baa/> or for more information contact the Diocese of Saskatoon Catholic Foundation at admin@dscf.ca or call (306) 659-5851. "Let us continue to walk as pilgrims of hope, rooted in prayer and united in our mission to serve. May the Lord bless all who have given so generously and inspire others to join in this important work of faith." – Bishop Mark Hagemoen.

THANK YOU for your generosity!





ST. BENEDICT

10 1st Street South (Church Avenue)
St. Benedict, SK S0K 3T0



Mass Times:

December: **Sunday 9^{AM}**

January: **Saturday 5^{PM}**

St. Benedict Parish will be accepting donations for Christmas Flowers in memory of loved ones. Anyone who would like to make a donation please contact Theresa Chipecur at (306) 289-0008

Christmas & New Year Schedule

Advent Penitential/Confessions –

December 18th @ 7^{PM}

Christmas Eve ~ St. Benedict @ 5^{PM}

~ St. Michael's @ 7:30^{PM}

Christmas Day ~ Canadian Martyrs @ 9^{AM}

~ St. Michael's @ 11^{AM}

January 1st (The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God) ~ St. Michael's @ 9^{AM}

Sunday/Saturday Mass Ministries

9^{AM} – Sunday December 14th

Ushers: Laverne Sacristan: Laverne
Cross Bearer: Colleen Servers: Draude's
Readings & Prayers of the Faithful: LeeAnn

9^{AM} – Sunday December 21st

Ushers: Reg Sacristan: Reg
Cross Bearer: Reg
Readings & Prayers of the Faithful: LeeAnn

5^{PM} – Christmas Eve

Ushers: Laverne Sacristan: Laverne
Cross Bearer: Colleen Servers: Draude's
Readings & Prayers of the Faithful: LeeAnn

9^{AM} – Sunday December 28th

Ushers: Reg Sacristan: Reg
Cross Bearer: Reg
Readings & Prayers of the Faithful: LeeAnn



CANADIAN MARTYR'S

1st Street North
Middle Lake, SK S0K 2X0



Mass Times:

December: **Saturday 5^{PM}**

January: **Sunday 11^{AM}**

READERS / COLLECTION:

Sat. Dec 13th @ 5^{PM} Marj & Janice

Sat. Dec 20th @ 5^{PM} Tim & Janine

Christmas Day @ 9^{AM} Andrea & Gloria

Sat. Dec 28th @ 5^{PM} Marj & Janice

CHURCH MAINTENANCE:

Sun Dec. 14th Tim & Allen

Sun Dec. 21st Matthew & Ken P.

Sun Dec 28th Dorian & R. Baker

CHURCH CLEANERS:

December:

Colleen Baumann

Please maintain any flowers, solar lights, and anything else placed in the cemetery at a grave site. Please try to place objects in a way as not to impede the cemetery grass mowing and maintenance for the volunteers looking after the cemetery. It can add a lot of time and effort on the volunteer's part if items left at grave sites are left to deteriorate. Thank you, God Bless!

Christmas hamper donations needed

This holiday season the Middle Lake SCC is putting together Christmas Hampers for those in need in our community. We are looking for non-perishable or monetary donations. There are donation drop off boxes set up at the DSR in Middle Lake, The Holy Trinity church in Pilger, Middle Lake Lutheran church, Three Lakes childcare centre, The Gospel Church as well Three Lakes School on December 4th for the Countdown to Christmas. Thank you for your donations!

A "Journey Through Advent"

Video Series
featuring reflections
on the readings for
each Sunday in
Advent, is again
available from the
Canadian Conference
of Catholic Bishops
(CCCB) in both
English and French
on their website:
www.cccb.ca.

Christmas Hamper program for Middle Lake and surrounding communities

If you or your family is in need this holiday season, please send your request for a Christmas hamper to 1-306-229-7279 or 1-306-202-8911. The hampers are available to all those who are in need within the community.

3rd Sunday of Advent: Courage! Courage!!

“You will never do anything in this world without courage. It is the greatest quality of the mind next to honor.” Aristotle

The readings of today have comforting words. Prophet Isaiah tells us that God is the hope of his people who are crushed by misfortune. For this reason, we take ‘courage, and do not be afraid’ (Isaiah 35:4). St James in his letter urges us to be patient with one another - ‘Be patient! Do not lose heart’ (James 5:8). In the Gospel, though Jesus appreciated the work done by his cousin. He also knew, may be that his time is up, that he made no physical effort towards his rescue, rather Jesus sent him a lovely and encouraging words: ‘Happy the person who does not lose faith in me’ (Matthew 11:6).

John the Baptist was the last of the prophets (major and minor). He was the forerunner of Jesus; his cousin at that. But his style preaching got him into trouble with King Herod. Then, he got locked up in a dark dungeon with the threat of death hanging over him. There in the prison John’s faith was severely tested. He needed reassurance and comforting; so he sent his disciples to Jesus.....

The above comforting words are addressed to us now. And we need to drink them in, because at times we too can find ourselves in dark situations. We might be going along nicely but then a storm suddenly hits us: loss of one’s job, a serious illness, family torn apart, unexplained financial mismanagement... These kinds of things shatter our faith in the right order of things and even in God.

At times like these may we hear the words of Isaiah: 'Courage! Do not be afraid.'

John the Baptist was a holy, God-fearing man, yet he ended up in a dungeon under sentence of death. We can do our best, but things may still go wrong. We feel let down by God. We doubt his love for us and perhaps even his existence.

At times like these may we hear the words of Jesus: 'Blessed is the person who does not lose faith in me.'

Modern life is becoming increasingly stressful. Christmas brings added work and more stress. Some people can feel overwhelmed, and wonder if they will be able to cope.

In times like these may we hear the words of Isaiah: 'Courage! Do not be afraid.'

Death constitutes the severest test of all for our faith. We live our lives in the shadow of death. That all of us, but especially those who have recently lost a loved one, and who are grieving deeply or even confused.

May hear the words of Jesus: 'Blessed is the person who does not lose faith in me.'

At times we are bewildered by some of the things that are happening in our world: tragedies, wars, famines, genocide (like the killing of Christians in Nigeria). We feel numbed and powerless, and we wonder where God is, and why he doesn't intervene.

In the midst of our bewilderment may we hear the words of Jesus: 'Blessed is the person who does not lose faith in me.'

Some parents have seen their children give up the practice of the faith, in spite of having given them encouragement and good example. For them it's a great pain, and a great sadness.

May these parents hear the words of St James: 'Be patient! Do not lose heart.'

At times our appetite get us into serious trouble - alcoholism is a terrible affliction. So too is drug addiction. They cause misery to the sufferer and to those who have to live with him or her. The alcoholic and the addict have to seek help. It takes courage to admit one's need and to ask for help.

May such people hear the words of Isaiah: 'Courage! Do not be afraid.'

Each of us knows the kind of situations that cause us to be fearful and doubtful. We can't stop ourselves from feeling afraid. But we must not allow our fears to cripple us. Courage is not never feeling afraid, it is feeling afraid and going on in spite of it.

Lastly, let us know that God is present in an especially intimate manner in the soul that is filled with the love of God. It was in this manner that God took up his abode with the prophets, apostles, martyrs and saints and all the holy souls who clung to him. When God is with us, we need fear no power on earth.

Prayer

Thank you, Jesus

Thank you, Lord