

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

Cudworth

St. Benedict

Middle Lake

Roman Catholic Parishes

2 Week Bulletin: Dec 21st 2024(Fourth Sunday of Advent) – Jan 5th 2025(The Epiphany of the Lord)

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



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Fax: (306) 256-7000 **Email and e-Transfer:** smcudworth@rcdos.ca **Website** <https://www.saintsnorth.ca>
Office Hours: Mon/Tue/Fri: 9 – 12noon (closed during Mass times) **Administration:** Fr. Benjamin Ezekwudo, Teresa Richardson, and Chara Sargeant (**Bulletin**)

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

ALL MASS INTENTIONS Dec. 21st – Jan 5th

Dec. 21st - Saturday 5PM
Canadian Martyrs: Audrey Reaser+/ Shawn & Jaunita Kolla
Dec. 22nd - Sunday 9AM
St. Benedict: Bill Tobin+/ St. Benedict Parish
Dec. 22nd - Sunday 11AM
St. Michael's: Nettie Kaminecki+/Jim and Liz Wilde
Christmas Eve - 5 PM
Canadian Martyrs: Velmal Schreiner+/Lionel and Jackie Grimard
Christmas Eve - 7:30PM
St. Michael's: Joe MacLeod+/ Don & Kathleen Kolla
Christmas Day - 9AM
St. Benedict: Glen & Doreen Schreiner+/ Laverne & Colleen Martinka
Christmas Day - 11AM
St. Michael's: Deceased members of Rudolph Lange family
Dec. 27th - Friday 9AM
St. Michael's: Catherine Reding+/ MaryAnn Schwark
Dec. 28th - Saturday 5PM
Canadian Martyrs: Louis Medernach+/ Morris & Gen Trischuk
Dec. 29th - Sunday 9AM
St. Benedict: Roydon Gruending+/Marie Thibault and family
Dec. 29th - Sunday 11AM
St. Michael's: Mark Cayen+/Ivan and Teresa Richardson

Dec. 31st - Tues. 6:30PM
St. Michael's Haven: Netti Kaminecki+/Bernadette Lange
Jan 1st Wed. - 9AM
The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
St. Michael's: Roland Regnier+/ Doreen Regnier
Jan. 1st - Wed. 10:30 AM
Cudworth Nursing Home: Claudette Bridgman+/ Armella Frie
Jan. 1st - Wed. 1:30PM
Middle Lake Bethany: Audrey Reaser+ \ Don & Kathleen Kolla
Jan. 3rd - Friday 9AM
St. Michael's: Louis Medernach+/ Ray & Donna Jungwirth
Jan. 4th - First Saturday 9AM - Rosary
9:30AM - Mass
St. Michael's: In reparation for the offenses and blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Jan. 4th - Saturday 5PM
St. Benedict: Roydon Gruending+/Audrey and Ray Blais
Jan. 5th - Sunday 9AM
St. Michael's: Joe MacLeod+ \ Eugene & Grace Jungwirth
Jan. 5th - Sunday 11AM
Canadian Martyrs: Leon Grilz (healing)



THE JUBILEE PRAYER

(from Pope Francis):

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

**The office will be closed
December 24th - January 3rd**

Father Benjamin will be away on vacation to Nigeria from January 8th till February 7th.



ST. MICHAEL'S -503 Main Street,
Cudworth, SK. S0K 1B0
Mass Time – January: Sunday 9^{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 –

Next meeting: Thursday January 9th @ 7:30 PM
Rosary: 7 PM



CWL –

Next meeting: Tuesday January 21st, @ 7:15 PM



Parish Council -

Next meeting: Wednesday February 12th @ 7:00 PM

Coffee Sunday – Dec. 29th after 11^{AM} Mass



Rosary Prayer Group(MMP)

www.mmpcanada.ca

Thurs, January 16th @ 3^{PM} – St. Michael's
Thurs, January 23rd @ 3^{PM} – St. Benedict

*2025 Collection envelopes are
available in the East entrance*

Prayer Shawl Ministry.



The Crochet and Knitting Group has resumed!
Tuesday's at the Haven, from 1 - 2^{PM}.
We still hold many beautiful blessed shawls that
are waiting for anyone in need of some welcomed
comfort. Please don't shy back on inquiring

Prayer Shawls:

Sylvia Meszaros - (306) 256-7198

Yarn/wool donations:

Gen Trischuk – (306) 256-3904



Any yarn and or monetary donations are always greatly appreciated.

**Congratulations to Helanna Gessner for
winning the Christmas Raffle Basket!**

Thanks to those who donated and
supported the Raffle!

VAN SERVICE – Winter Months

Our van is available to serve our parishioners
who need a ride to the church for Sunday
Mass. Please contact Vince at 306-233-8633
to reserve. **Pick-up starts 1h before Mass.**

Sunday Mass Ministries

11^{AM} – Sunday, December 22nd

Rosary: Phil **Ushers:** Garry, Clarence
Screens: Grace J. **Servers:** Chelsea, Jax, Kennedy
Readers: 1st – Lee, 2nd - Doreen,
Prayers of the Faithful – Catherine
Offerings: Bernadette, Vince, & Tammy
Counters: Garry, Catherine, Heide

7:30^{PM} – Tuesday, December 24th

Welcomers: Jim & Liz **Rosary:** Glen
Ushers: Danny, Darrel **Screens:** Grace J.
Readers: 1st – Morris, 2nd - Barbara,
Prayers of the Faithful – John K.
Offerings: Edward & Leonard

11^{AM} – Wednesday, December 25th

Welcomers: John & Audrey **Rosary:** Vince
Ushers: Edward & Leonard **Screens:** Jill
Servers: Chelsea & Brianna
Readers: 1st – John v, 2nd - Teresa,
Prayers of the Faithful – Kathleen
Offerings: John & Audrey

11^{AM} – Sunday, December 29th

Welcomers: Garry & Catherine
Rosary: Phil
Ushers: Clarence & Danny
Screens: Jill
Servers: Brianna, Camryn, Brady
Readers: 1st – James, 2nd - Don,
Prayers of the Faithful – Kim
Offerings: James & Kim
Counters: Dennis & Sylvia

9^{AM} – Wed, Jan. 1st Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Rosary: Glen **Ushers:** Darrel & Garry
Screens: Ann **Servers:** Eric, Leo, Alynn
Readers: 1st – Garry, 2nd - Doreen,
Prayers of the Faithful – Bernadette
Offerings: Bernadette, Vince & Tammy

9^{AM} – Sunday, January 5th

Rosary: Vince
Ushers: Edward & Leonard
Servers: Chelsea, Jax, Kennedy
Readers: 1st – Catherine, 2nd - Lee,
Prayers of the Faithful – Heide
Offerings: Edward & Leonard
Counters: Danny, Ann, Elaine

Chalice extends their heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Ezekwudo and St. Michael parish for hosting a Child Sponsorship Weekend on Nov. 16-17. As a result, a child was sponsored, in addition to those who are usually sponsored after more time and consideration. On behalf of this child, we give thanks to God that you have revealed His love to them and have given them hope for the future!

Chalice envisions a world where all children and families have the means to overcome the cycle of poverty. Please prayerfully consider a call to sponsorship, a unique way to live out your faith by providing hope for a child in need. Please visit www.chalice.ca or call 1-800-776-6855 for more information on our mission or to sponsor a child today.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! Confirmation Retreats

CHRISTMAS: A message that is fundamentally PROLIFE, BOTH NOW & ETERNALLY!



A young, unmarried, pregnant mother chose to obey God and give life to her unborn son –God’s Son- and He then gave His life so that you and I could be given eternal life.



May you be blessed by God’s LOVE, LIGHT, and PEACE this Christmas and in 2025.



- St. Peter, Unity**
March 1st, 2025 9^{AM}-3^{PM}
 - St. Patrick, Saskatoon**
March 2nd, 2025 12^{PM} - 6^{PM}
 - Little Flower, Leader**
March 22nd, 2025 9^{AM}-3^{PM}
 - St. Augustine, Humboldt**
March 23rd, 2025 12^{PM} - 6^{PM}
 - Holy Spirit, Saskatoon**
April 5th, 2025 9^{AM}-3^{PM}
 - St. Anne, Saskatoon**
April 6th, 2025 12^{PM} - 6^{PM}
- Registrations will be open on December 15th, 2024**

FOR SALE

QTY.	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
3	13ft. solid oak church benches	\$500.00
1	15ft. solid oak church bench	\$500.00
5	8ft. wooden tables (need some TLC)	\$20.00
84	wooden chairs (some need TLC)	\$5.00

Proceeds to go towards the purchase of new tables and chairs for the Assembly Room at St. Michael’s Parish.



2025 CWL Membership

renewals are now being accepted. For the next few Sundays, memberships will be accepted before and after mass in the east entrance. The fee for 2025 is \$50. You may also put an envelope in the collection basket, addressed to "CWL Membership". Please be sure to include your name. Envelopes are available in both entrances of Church. Contact Heide Kolla 306-233-7215 for more information





ST. BENEDICT

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

Mass Times:

December: Sunday 9^{AM}

January: Saturday 5^{PM}

Lenten Retreat with Dr. Ralph Martin

March 7th – 9th

Spend the first weekend of Lent 2025 on retreat with Dr. Ralph Martin of Renewal Ministries at St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission in Bruno, SK. Family friendly retreat (retreat sessions geared towards adults/teens). Free session registration for children under 15 with paid adult registration. Free Childcare is provided for children 5 and under.

On-site meals and accommodations available. Programming runs 7:00^{PM} Friday March 7th (check-in after 2^{PM}) – 12^{PM} Sunday, March 9th. More information and early registration at www.StTherese.ca/events or 306-369-2555

Saturday/Sunday Mass Ministries

9^{AM} – Sunday December 22nd

Ushers: Reg

Sacristan: Reg

Cross Bearer: Reg

Readings and Prayers of the Faithful: LeeAnn

9^{AM} – Wednesday December 25th

Ushers: Laverne

Sacristan: Laverne

Cross Bearer: Colleen

Servers: Draude's

Readings and Prayers of the Faithful: LeeAnn



9^{AM} – Sunday December 29th

Ushers: Reg

Sacristan: Reg

Cross Bearer: Reg

Readings and 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 21st @ 5^{PM} Tim and Janine
Tue. Dec 24th @ 5^{PM} Andrea and Gloria
Sat. Dec 28th @ 5^{PM} Marj and Janice
Sun. Jan 5th @ 11^{AM} Tim and Janine



CHURCH MAINTENANCE:

Sun. Dec 22nd Tim & Allen
Sun. Dec 29th Matthew & Ken P.

CHURCH CLEANERS:

December:
Colleen Baumann



Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis will open the Jubilee Year on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 2024. In the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon, Bishop Mark Hagemoen will launch the Jubilee Year with celebration of the Eucharist on the Feast of the Holy Family at 5^{PM} Saturday, Dec. 28 at Holy Spirit Church, 114 Kingsmere Place in Saskatoon. In cathedrals around the world, there will be special Jubilee 2025 Masses celebrated on Sunday, Dec. 29. Both the Cathedral of the Holy Family and St. Paul Co-Cathedral will mark the opening of Jubilee 2025 with special prayers on that Sunday – all are welcome to attend. Find links to resources and information about Jubilee 2025 at www.rcdos.ca/jubilee-2025.



Saskatchewan Pro-Life memberships are now due.

Due to the postal strike the SPLA membership renewal letter will not reach our members before the end of the year. We ask, if possible, can members renew online (\$25/year) at the website www.saskprolife.com or by e-transfer to: info@saskprolife.com Also, due to the strike, we will not be mailing our Christmas greetings and year-end donation request letter. If you would like to make a donation to SPLA for the 2024 tax year, please contact our office @ 306-992-6941, 306-352-3480, or email info@saskprolife.com

4th Advent: Acting on our belief

'Blessed is she who believed that the promise made to her by the Lord would be fulfilled.' (Luke 1:45)

Today is the last Sunday of Advent, meaning that Christmas is at the corner. The readings of today invite us to believe that all God promised will come to pass. Believing is not easy!

Virgin Mary is blessed because she not only believed but also acted on her belief. Immediately, after the visit from the angel Gabriel, she went with haste to visit Elizabeth. Both Elizabeth and Mary are for us vivid examples of how God works in near impossible situations. Elizabeth was said to be barren, but God did more by making it possible for her to conceive even in her old age. Mary herself had wondered how she could conceive, having had no intimate relation with a man. Again, God does it in His own way and awesomely. As the angel said, with God nothing is impossible. Mary believed it and reaped the fruit of her belief.

Wonderful things happen for those who believe. However, it is not simply a matter of believing, but of believing and acting on that belief. It is a question of hearing the word and doing it (James 1:22), and making sacrifices because of it.

In the Bible (especially the gospels) we see faith in action:

- Jesus said to the centurion, 'Go; be it done for you as you have believed,' and his servant was cured (Matthew 8:13).
- To the woman with the haemorrhage he said, 'Take heart, daughter, your faith has made you well,' and her bleeding stopped (Matthew 9:22).
- To the two blind men Jesus said, 'According to your faith, be it done to you, and they got their sight back' (Matthew 9:29).

All of Jesus' preaching had as its aim to elicit faith in people's hearts. Faith (believing) doesn't always make things easy. In fact, the opposite is more likely to be the case. It is because we have faith that we refuse to give up. Faith impels us to persevere; a person with faith never gives up.

'Faith is a personal act - the free response of the human person to the initiative of God who reveals himself. But faith is not an isolated act. No one can believe alone, just as no one can live alone. You have not given yourself faith as you have not given yourself life. The believer has received faith from others and should hand it

on to others. Our love for Jesus and for our neighbor impels us to speak to others about our faith. Each believer is thus a link in the great chain of believers. I cannot believe without being carried by the faith of others, and by my faith I help support others in the faith.’ (CCC: 166)

Although, challenges of life and other existential difficulties tend to discourage us from believing and acting on it. We are admonished today never to give way to such hopelessness. God has a plan for us which we must strive to claim.

God has always great surprises for us. It is left to us to bend our wills to his own will which holds better promises of life, joy and peace. Mary teaches us a great deal through her fiat: “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your word.” And with that she was favoured by God.

Finding favour means many things. In Virgin Mary’s case, finding favour means a grace bestowed out of privilege for a particular role. We too have found favour with God through the grace he has bestowed on us. This grace pulls us in the right direction. It strengthens us when we are weak. It works in us in many ways because God has made us his children.

Prayer:

Thank you, Jesus.

Thank you, Lord

Holy Family: Listening Hearts

“There is a difference between listening and waiting for your turn to speak” Simon Sinek

Catholic Church, all over the world, celebrates today the Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Family is defined as “a divinely instituted community of persons made of husband, wife, children; open to life in love.” The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit. In the procreation and education of children it reflects the Father's work of creation. It is called to partake of the prayer and sacrifice of Christ. (CCC: 2205)

All families desire to be peaceful, prayerful, loving and happy. However, in modern society there are common family challenges that mitigate the flow of happiness and peace. Some of these challenges include:

- i. financial crisis;
- ii. the problem of leadership in the family;
- iii. upbringing of children;
- iv. respect for one another;
- v. forgiveness; ...the list can go on....

Third on the above list played out in today's gospel between Mary and Joseph. At the age of twelve, Jesus was taken to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast of the Passover. ‘The family is the original cell of social life. It is the natural society in which husband and wife are called to give themselves in love and in the gift of life. Authority, stability, and a life of relationships within the family constitute the foundations for freedom, security, and fraternity within society. The family is the community in which, from childhood, one can learn moral values, begin to honor God, and make good use of freedom. Family life is an initiation into life in society.’ (CCC: 2207)

As Mary and Joseph set out on the return journey Jesus got left behind, and it wasn't until the end of the first day that he was missed. It was no joke - a small boy lost in a large city. Yet no one was to blame. It was the result of a misunderstanding. Misunderstandings occur even in the best families.

Mary and Joseph began a frantic search for Jesus. Failing to find him among their fellow pilgrims, they returned to the city to look for him. When at last they found him, their first question was very understandable, ‘why did you do this to us?’

And he replied, ‘I did it because I must be about my Father's business.’ Though they didn't understand his explanation, they took him home.

Handling family challenges is no small feat. Today very many families are under siege from all fronts. Attacks on family values is on the rise. The Holy Family faced trials and threats from without, but were united within because they loved one another, prayed and listened to the Word of God.

Remember how Joseph listened and obeyed the instruction he received in his dream (Matthew 2:13). And he was responsible for the safety and wellbeing of Jesus and Mary while in Egypt. Mary, on her own part, remembered and pondered everything in her heart (Luke 2:51).

Listening is a very important part of being a parent. Listening with our ears and listening with our hearts. We have to listen to what a child is saying with words and without them. Bryant McGill said, “one of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say”

As we celebrate the Holy Family today, let us strive to build God-centered families where God takes precedence and where peace, love and happiness reign.

Prayer:

Thank you, Jesus

Thank you, Lord

Fr. Benjamin Ezekwudo