

Growing in Wisdom: A Parish Celebrates its Feast Day

Parish feast days are natural opportunities for communal celebration. Together, parishioners recognize and recommit to living in that saintly spirit of their patron.

On Thursday, September 28, St. Michael Church and School in Lincoln will not only celebrate the patronage of St. Michael the Archangel, but parishioners will also consecrate the school community to Mary, Seat of Wisdom, and inaugurate the first phase of Perpetual Adoration with Exposition.

September 28, 2017, promises to be a memorable moment in the parish's long history.

[The Feast of St. Michael will be transferred from the 29th to the 28th this year due to a pre-scheduled literacy festival on the day of the Feast.]

The day begins with an all-school Mass, celebrated by Bishop Bruskewitz. Immediately following, Bishop Bruskewitz will move into a communal consecration ceremony to Mary, Seat of Wisdom.

"The school consecration," said Father Borowiak, "is an intentional way of giving ourselves completely to Jesus through His mother, Mary, Seat of Wisdom." Bishop Conley recently asked all diocesan schools to undergo a consecration to Mary, under her title, "Mary, Seat of Wisdom." Father Borowiak continued, "We are pleased to incorporate this noteworthy act into the celebration of our patron Saint." Flowers for the Blessed Mother, Miraculous Medals, and holy cards will add to the ambiance of the special occasion.

Jesus was the first to consecrate Himself to Mary. The Wisdom of God grew up under the loving guidance and care of the Blessed Mother, who nurtured Him on her lap and prepared Him for His role as Savior of the world. She teaches His disciples to know and love Him, as she did.

It is fitting, then, for the Blessed Sacrament to have a prominent role in the celebration.

After the consecration procession, Bishop Bruskewitz will lead the community in Exposition and Benediction and then place the monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament in the adoration chapel, where Perpetual Adoration will officially begin.

Developing a 24/7 Perpetual Adoration program has been a long-standing goal of the parish. Patty Marmie, Perpetual Adoration Coordinator, noted, "We finally set a date to expose the Blessed Sacrament for substantial periods at a time; it took concerted effort to prepare the way. On September 29th, He's coming!" Starting on the 29th, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M., Monday through Thursday and 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. on Fridays.

The parish continues its plans to expand the adoration program to its fullest capacity. "We won't finish our efforts until Jesus is adored twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week," claimed Marmie.

The official celebration will close with a Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the St. Michael the Archangel song, though the students can expect ongoing festivities throughout the day. “We have several special touches planned,” stated Principal Denise Ray. “We want the students, teachers, and staff to share fully in this parish celebration of developing as disciples of Jesus Christ.”

“As Jesus ‘grew in wisdom, age, and grace,’” noted Father Borowiak, “so, too, do we as a school and parish community want to more deeply understand and accept God’s holy will for our lives, most especially through the gentle presence of our Blessed Mother and the Eucharist.”

For more information, please contact Father Borowiak at frborowiak@cdolinc.net.

All are invited and welcome to attend Mass at 8:15 A.M., with the consecration ceremony, Exposition, and Benediction following.