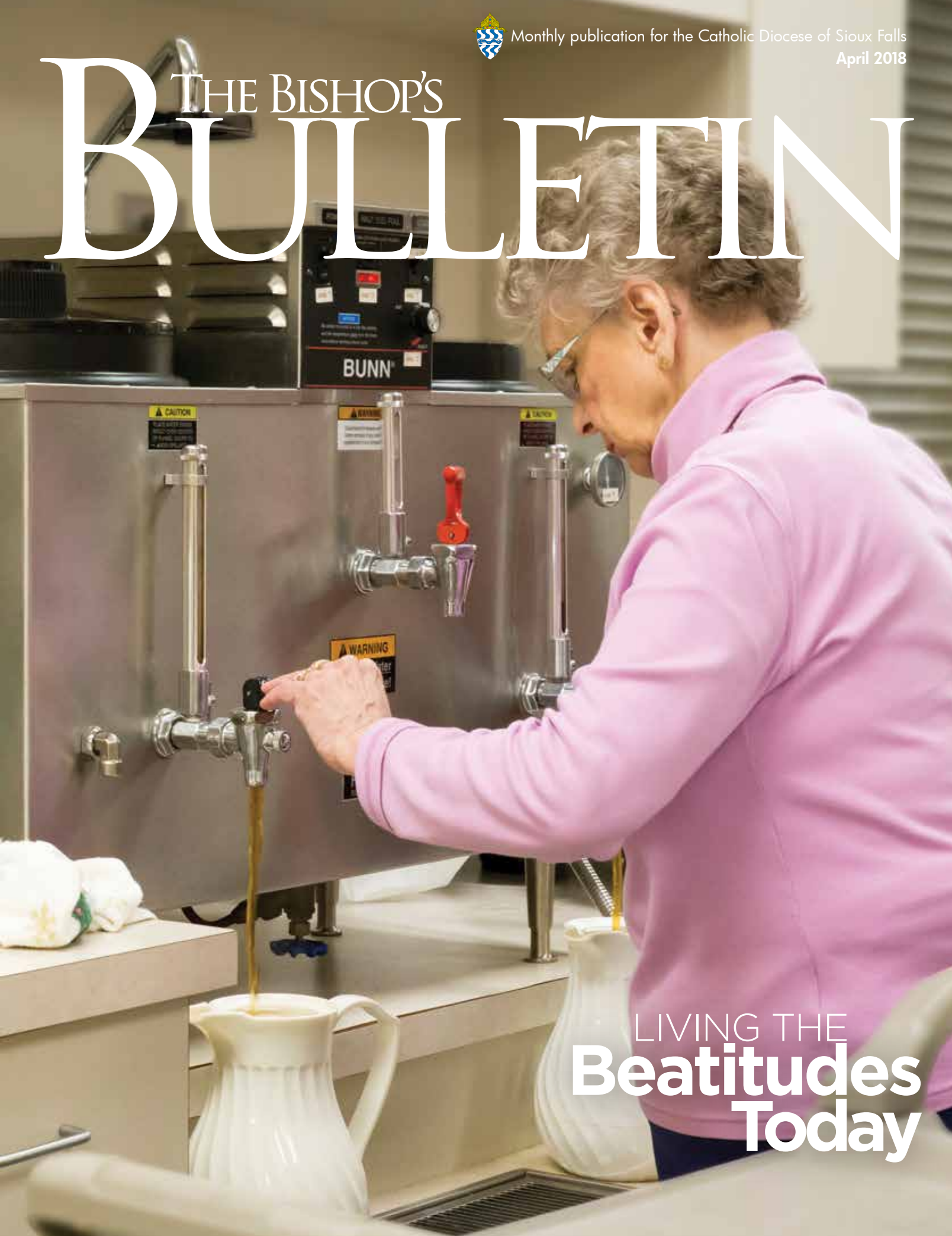
Monthly publication for the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls
April 2018

The Bishop's Bulletin



Living the Beatitudes Today

Bishop Paul
SWAIN

Easter is a time of hope, of new life and of new beginnings

When I was in my twenties and just beginning my profession as a lawyer and certainly before my conversion, some friends and I after a long Wisconsin winter went on vacation to Jamaica. Easter occurred during our stay.

Most of my young friends had no interest in celebrating this Christian landmark. Some things do not change. One friend and I decided we did wish to celebrate this important day. After inquiring of where we might do so we were directed to a church not too far from where we were staying. Little did we know that we were to become a part of a religious service that lasted longer than a typical Easter Vigil.

Spirited music, dynamite preaching, personal testimonials made for a powerful statement of faith and a close relationship with Jesus Christ. It was uplifting if unusual from our experience and a bit wearying.

During this long prayer service a lady sitting beside my friend when she felt moved to add an exclamation point to what was been said or sung would elbow my friend in his side. For the rest of our time on vacation my friend coped with the painful impact of those staccato elbow jabs. Selfishly I was grateful for our seating choice.

Sometimes though we need an elbow jab to stir us out of our routine. We celebrate Easter every year. It is a wonderful family moment with Easter eggs, chocolate bunnies, ham and jelly beans. However for many it is a day come and gone. The Church challenges us to not minimize the significance of the crucifixion and resurrection by setting aside fifty days for the Easter Season.

It is a time of hope, of new life and of new beginnings. As a beautiful example, hundreds of adults in our diocese were welcomed into the Church at the Easter Vigil.

I relate to this special moment in their lives. I was received into the Church on Holy Thursday at the age of 39. On that day I professed faith in the Church, made my first confession (I recall the priest jokingly suggest I confess only the highlights. It still took some time.), was confirmed, received my first communion at the Mass which I also served. What a day!

I had agonized over entering the Church, studying, praying and procrastinating. Fortunately the Holy Spirit does not give up. When I finally said yes a burden was lifted from me. It was a graced moment of peace. It felt so right. Why had I put it off, fought so long I wondered. Perhaps so that I might more fully experience the joy and peace that was now mine.

Malcolm Muggeridge, an English writer and longtime skeptic of religion, described his feeling when he entered the Church as "a sense of homecoming, of picking up the threads of a loose life, of responding to a bell that has long been ringing, of taking a place at a table that had long been vacant".

As I have aged, I reflect on that joy tempered by the crosses that have also become part of my journey with greater gratitude to God for having given me the graces through His Church to weather them with hope and trust.

The season of Easter gives us all the opportunity each year to renew our commitment whatever our spiritual journey has been. We do so when we reaffirm our belief expressed in the Creed which we do at Easter season Masses.

This season always occurs in the early spring which seems slow in coming. We yearn for the warmth and flowers of May. But we must

wait a bit longer. Easter encourages us to be patient. If we have faith in Christ crucified yet risen despite the cloudiness surrounding us in weather and circumstances they will not overwhelm us.

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta once suggested that we be the sunshine of God's love for others. She wrote, "We wait impatiently for the paradise where God is, but we have it in our power to be in paradise with Him right now: being happy with Him means to love as He loves, to help as He helps, to give as He gives, to serve as He serves.

Christians have been referred to as Easter people. There is much in our world and culture today that make many worry, even despair. That is not the response of Easter people. It is in our power, with Christ's example and continuing presence in His Church and especially in the Holy Eucharist, to bring light and life into our own lives, and from us light and life to those whose lives touch ours.

Archbishop Oscar Romero will be declared a saint later this year. In 1980 he was gunned down while praying Holy Mass in El Salvador because he protested the injustice inflicted on its people, mostly Catholics, by the then government.

He once said, "How beautiful will be the day when baptized understand that their work, their job is priestly work [though distinct from the ministerial priesthood, Lumen Gentium]. That just as I celebrate Mass at this altar, so each carpenter...at his workbench and each metal worker, each professional, each doctor with a scalpel, a market woman at her stand is performing a priestly office.

"Cab drivers, listen to this message; you are a priest at the wheel, my friend, if you work with honesty, consecrating that taxi of yours to God, bearing a message of peace and love to the passengers who ride with you."

As the letter to the Ephesians advises, "Be imitators of Christ... and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God". (Eph 5:2)

That is a challenging mission but possible with the help of God.

Sometimes though we need to experience an elbow in the side to remind us of the wonderful gift of faith in Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, who died on the cross and rose for our salvation. Praised by Jesus Christ.

Pilgrimage to Poland

Forty years ago this year St. John Paul II was elected by the Cardinals under the guidance of the Holy Spirit as the 263rd Pope. He served for over a quarter century. His leadership, courage, humility and witness influenced my own faith life and millions of others, and continues to do so.

I have decided to lead a pilgrimage to Poland from October 12-20. Not only will we visit sites important to his life, but also those of St. Faustina and St. Maximillian Kolbe among others. I invite you to join me. Additional information is available through the Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota.

A blessed Easter season. May the risen Christ empower you to imitators of Him.

Schedule

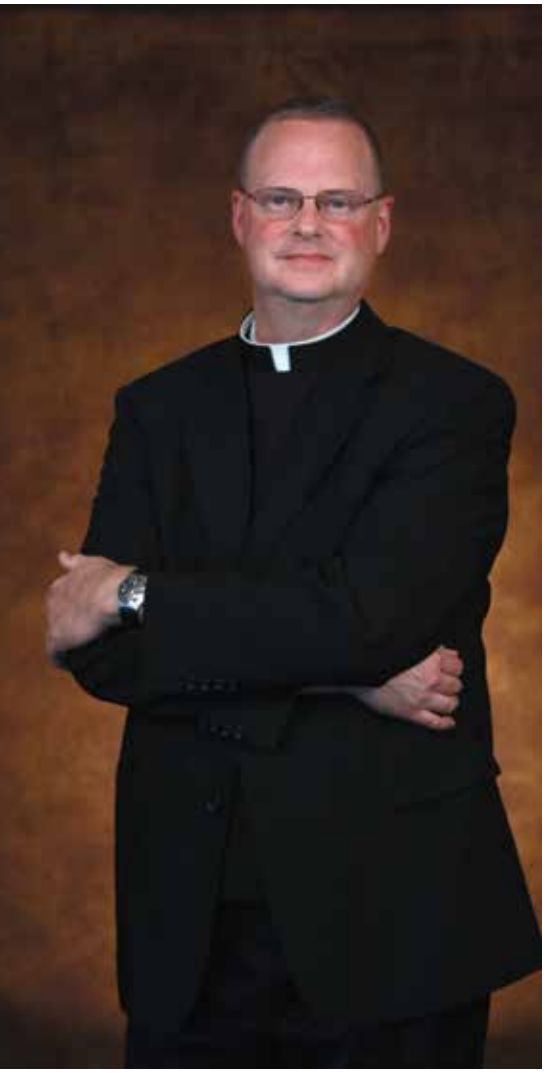
April

1	7:30	Easter Sunday Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
3	12:00	Pray at Planned Parenthood, Sioux Falls
4	7:00	Confirmation, St. Thomas Aquinas, Madison
7	5:00	Confirmation, St. Charles, Big Stone; St. Lawrence, Milbank and Annunciation, Revillo at Milbank
8	1:30	Confirmation, St. Teresa of Avila, Beresford; Good Shepherd, Centerville; St. Teresa of Calcutta, Dakota Dunes; St. Joseph, Elk Point; St. Peter, Jefferson, St. Magdalen, Lennox and St. Patrick, Wakonda at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
9	12:00	Solemnity, Annunciation of the Lord, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
10	12:00	Diocesan Investment Committee Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, Sioux Falls
13	10:00	School Mass, St. Lawrence School, Milbank
14	11:15	Mass, Women's Conference, Sioux Falls Convention Center
	4:00	Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
15	1:30	Confirmation, Sacred Heart and St. Mary, Aberdeen at St. Mary
18		St. Paul Seminary Rector's Dinner, St. Paul, MN
20	2:00	Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota Executive Board Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, Sioux Falls
21	5:00	Confirmation, St. Charles, Artesian; St. Joseph, Wessington Springs and St. Wilfrid, Woonsocket at Woonsocket
22	11:00	Confirmation, St. John the Evangelist, Arlington; St. Mary, Bryant and St. Thomas Aquinas, De Smet at De Smet
26		Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota Board Meeting, Mitchell
27		South Dakota Knights of Columbus State Convention, Spearfish
28	7:00	Confirmation, SS. Peter and Paul, Pierre
29	9:30	Confirmation, St. Catherine, Big Bend; St. Joseph, Fort Thompson and Immaculate Conception, Stephan at Fort Thompson
	1:30	Confirmation; Holy Family and Holy Spirit, Mitchell at Holy Family

May

1	12:00	Mass, Feast of St. Joseph the Workman, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
5	9:00	Mass and Commencement, Presentation College, Aberdeen
	5:00	Confirmation, St. Henry, Henry
6	9:00	Confirmation, St. Thomas the Apostle, Faulkton
	1:00	Confirmation, Holy Trinity, Huron
8	12:00	Pray at Planned Parenthood, Sioux Falls

Fr. Michael
GRIFFIN



We can't do everything for ourselves

One of the things that I had to consider when I moved back to Aberdeen a few years ago was where I was going to get my hair cut. Since I was in the military, regular haircuts are mandatory and the style of haircut is not open to a great deal of personal expression.

So I needed to find a place that could give me a good "high and tight," but I had no idea where that place might be. I found myself nostalgic for Scott's Barbershop on the far end of Pierre Street for just the right haircut and a bonus straight razor neck shave with hot lather. It was perfect. I did not, however, want to drive 3 hours to get my haircut once a month.

I tried a few places in Aberdeen and finally ended up going quite often to a place called Adam and Eve's and, to be honest, I was nervous when I went for the first time because it had been decades since I had my hair cut at a place that could be called a beauty salon.

I am used to the usual barber shop experience, red and white spinning pole out front, two chairs turned carefully away from the mirrors to face the others sitting and waiting, so we can talk sports and weather and avoid politics (although religion would come up; that's an occupational hazard). On this day, I was surrounded by many differences.

There were women getting their hair dyed, and sitting under big bee hive looking dryers, curlers were laying around and I was, frankly, a bit nervous being, at the moment, the only gentleman in the room.

The haircut was quick and efficient and just right and I had forgotten how nice it was to actually watch my hair getting cut as the chairs, in salons, tend to face towards the mirrors. Then, at the end, a question was asked which I had not heard for decades: "Would you like to have a shampoo?"

I thought about it for about a millisecond and jumped out of my chair and followed the nice lady to the back where the funny sinks with the cut outs were located. I sat on the chair and was laid back, laying my head into the notch, and waited. She wet my military-short hair and shampooed, massaging my scalp with the suds and then rinsed. The whole thing took a few minutes, but for my money, it could have lasted the rest of the day.

I had forgotten what an exceptional feeling it was to have someone wash my hair. I told the lady I thought the shampoo should last at least as long as the haircut and she laughed, but I was serious. It was amazing. I had to wonder, I wash my own hair a great deal, but for some reason washing my own hair just does not afford the same sense of relaxation and peace.

In much the same way that I can massage my feet or rub a knot in a muscle in my leg, and that is fine, but to have a massage, someone else doing it makes all the difference. It is no longer just me working a muscle, it becomes an experience, and a darn nice one at that.

I have mentioned this to a few people and discovered I am not alone in this. While some people bristle at the thought of someone else washing their hair or massaging a muscle you did not even realize was in need of some attention, most find the experience highly enjoyable. It goes beyond the usual care and maintenance we give ourselves daily, it is a moment of caring for ourselves that transcends the usual.

And it must, by its nature, involve someone caring for us. Which is, I think, the value and the lesson. We tend to forget in our hurried lives, or in the spirituality we have received, the wisdom of Jesus in sending out the disciples in twos, in gathering a people to Himself, in giving us a community. We have a tendency to think that what matters in our lives are those things we achieve or manage on our own, and we can think about faith in that same way.

It is personal, private, and we can slowly lose the life and joy that can only come from being a part of a living community. In our personal lives, we begin to forget the need we have to be cared for by another, and the need we have to care for another in return. We simply cannot give these acts of care and love to ourselves; we can try, but it just will not be same.

As we stand in the glorious glow of Christ's rising from the dead, as we prepare once again for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit from whom every community of love flows, we are invited to embrace the meaning of family, of friendship, of parish and of Church. Perhaps, in this embracing we can again find the courage to let others love us and care for us.

We might even remember how good it feels to be loved.

The Bishop's
Bulletin

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Many of the priests of the diocese were in attendance during the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in March. During the liturgy and in advance of the blessing of the Oil of The Sick, Oil of the Catechumens and the Holy Chrism, the priests participated in the Renewal of Priestly Promises. (Photo by Gene Young)

Presentation Sisters of Aberdeen

compassion
fearlessness
spirited
SERVANT HEART
foresight
tenacity

If I could be of any service in saving souls in any part of the globe, I would willingly do all in my power.
-Nano Nagle

In honor of our foundress, Nano Nagle's 300th birthday, we invite you to be a spark to others and share your spirit with people most in need.

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Ivan Kuzmich Makarov, Sermon on the Mount (1889)

LIVING THE Beatitudes Today

We might consider the Sermon on the Mount, and specifically the eight beatitudes, as the way to live happily within the gift of free will which our Creator gave to us.

"What Jesus gives us in the Sermon on the Mount, therefore, is the new law that would discipline our desires, our minds and our bodies so as to make real happiness possible," said Bishop Robert Barron in his book, Catholicism.

There are ample examples of people living out the beatitudes all around us, in the world and in our diocese. This story offers an example for each of the beatitudes in hopes they will inspire you to look around and find more.

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

One of the hallmarks of this beatitude is being aware of our utter need for God and trusting God.

"Our Lady whispers the word Trust to me often! I have a devotion to Our Lady of Trust and take great comfort in resting in her loving arms and speaking the words, Jesus, I Trust in You. I learned very early on in my life that faith is a gift and that we must ask for it," said Jackie Sempek, who works at Broom Tree Retreat and Conference Center.

Her need for trust in God has been great - Sempek lost her first husband after a two year battle with brain cancer and was left with five children ranging from age 7 to 15. Earlier, she had been the one dealing with illness.

"I was diagnosed with Stage 3 lymph cancer ten years prior to my husband's illness. I was pregnant with our second child when I noticed the lumps. I waited to start chemotherapy until after she was born, and when she was just 12 weeks old, after two cycles of chemo, I frighteningly discovered I was pregnant with our third. It was during this very dark time that the Christ's triumphant sovereignty over sin and death from the Cross became real to me and that glorious truth continues to inform my life," she said.

After her husband died she moved to be closer to family support and by happy coincidence ended up being near Broom Tree.

"I would say that suffering is not the worst thing that can happen to a person. The worst thing is to be separated from God," said Sempek, who in the years since has remarried and found a work and ministry home at Broom Tree.

"There is often a grace attached to becoming overwhelmed by life's circumstances. It takes us to a place beyond our capacities and it is there where we can either choose to surrender to God and believe that apart from Him we can do nothing, or we continue on with our flailing coping mechanisms which eventually leave us even more overwhelmed and broken than we were to begin with, "she said.

"My experience has taught me to surrender quickly and often to the merciful love of God. It is from there that we begin to really live. When we see our poverty, we see God."

Blessed are the meek: for they shall possess the land

To be meek does not mean being a pushover. Rather, meekness is about deeply governing our passions and using them rightly, most often for others. This exhibits itself in behaviors and attitudes of compassion, gentleness, charity, forgiveness and kindliness.

Jackie Sempek prepares the chapel at Broom Tree Retreat and Conference Center.

One of the most fundamental problems in the spiritual order is that we sense within ourselves the hunger for God, but we attempt to satisfy it with some created good that is less than God. Thomas Aquinas said that the four typical substitutes for God are wealth, pleasure, power and honor. Sensing the void within, we attempt to fill it up with some combination of these four things, but only in emptying out the self in love can we make the space for God to fill us.

Catholicism, Bishop Robert Barron, 2011, p. 43

Dorothy Day was the first to admit her struggle, writing in her autobiography, *The Long Loneliness*, "I have not always felt the richness of life, its sacredness… My life has been divided into two parts. The first twenty-five years were floundering, years of joy and sorrow, it is true, but certainly with a sense of insecurity one hears so much about these days."

In time Day became a deeply faithful Catholic and one of the best known social justice advocates of the 20th century, founding the still active Catholic Worker Movement. In 2012 the Catholic bishops of the United States unanimously recommended the canonization of Dorothy Day and today she is known as a "Servant of God."

Day cites many influences in shaping her faith and work, among them Fr. Pacifique Roy, a Josephite priest from Quebec, ministering in Baltimore who visited the Worker movement in New York. "He began with the Sermon on the Mount, holding us spellbound, so glowing was his talk, so heartfelt."

Fr. Roy encouraged the group to act always for the "supernatural motive."

"If we did our works of mercy to be praised by men, or from pride and vanity and sense of power, then we had our reward. If we did them for the love of God, in whose image man had been made, then God would reward us; then we were doing them for a supernatural motive," Day wrote.

Dorothy Day is depicted in a stained-glass window at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in the Staten Island borough of New York. (CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz)

Blessed are they who mourn: for they shall be comforted

In parishes all across the Diocese of Sioux Falls we comfort each other at the death of loved ones. This takes many forms, one of which is providing lunches, dinners and other types of social time after wakes and funerals. It's a way for us to enter into and support the suffering of another; to mourn with them.

For years at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Joan Miron and others have worked this funeral ministry.

"The Bereavement Ministry of the Cathedral of St. Joseph has had many volunteers over the years, women and men, to help serve funeral lunches dating back to Dorcas Baldwin, Cleo Grogan and Florence Kunkel to name a few," Miron said. Today, she lines up volunteers and cakes, others order the food and make sure the kitchen is ready in advance, help out during and clean up after.

"It serves as a ministry to the bereaved that mourn and extends our parish hospitality to them," she said, "Our volunteers find this ministry to be fulfilling and it also provides great fellowship."

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph funeral ministry prepares breakfast for the attendees.

Taking it a step beyond, Joan and her husband Al wanted to ensure such a service was able to be sustained and available to all.

"Having been part of this ministry and having been very blessed, my husband and I established the Al and Joan Miron Family Endowment Fund to help defray the costs of funeral lunches for those in need," Miron said.

Last year when Al died suddenly and unexpectedly, Joan asked that the memorials for Al would be directed into the fund.

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice: for they shall have their fill

Among the professions in Chad Campbell's career are a couple that one might associate with seeking justice - postal inspector in a large city and police officer in Sioux Falls. But it is his current role as leader of the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House where his true hunger for upholding the dignity of each person is being filled.

He felt a call to the ministry of the homeless shelter.

"I knew in my heart I had to answer that call, as difficult as it might be," Campbell said. "I saw firsthand everyday how our society viewed those less fortunate and how they were cast aside and viewed as less important than others and many are considered just a burden to society. I will tell you that most of the individuals that I speak with on a daily basis have little to zero self-worth. I know that I was called into this ministry to help serve those that I observed struggle on the streets from 2008 to 2014 (as a police officer).

"One guest would often ask me 'why do you care so much about me when no one else does?' I didn't have to even think about the answer, 'because you are my brother and sister in Christ and you are a child of God.'"

There is much indifference in the world, which might be considered the opposite of this beatitude.

"Indifference is something that I see every day," Campbell said. "I see people walk by people on the street or sitting in the Dudley House and not even acknowledge their existence. As human beings, we all crave the same thing - acceptance and

Chad Campbell, Executive Director, Bishop Dudley Hospitality House

relationship with our peers.

"Many individuals staying at the Dudley House have burned bridges with their families and friends and they have nowhere to turn. I like to think that even though we are not perfect, we attempt to offer individuals the opportunity to re-connect with society that will allow them to prosper and grow in self- awareness and self-sufficiency," he said.

"I often feel that even as Christians we judge our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate than we are," Campbell said. "It is our responsibility to stand up for those who can't stand up for themselves."

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy

Deacon Harold Pardew grew up unchurched and unbaptized in a large family that was in pieces. He remembers standing in a field as a boy cursing at God about what happened to his family. "From then on it was like God sent a troupe of angels to help guide me," he said.

He was over 20 years old before he stepped foot into a church, Sacred Heart in Aberdeen, but when he did he felt connected. In short order he met his future wife, Mary, a Catholic, and his faith journey took off.

The sense of God's mercy for him, mostly understood as it often is, in hindsight, opened him to see the needs of others. As a hospital chaplain Deacon Pardew saw the pain of parents who suffered miscarriage and who did not have the opportunity to properly grieve or take care of the lost child.

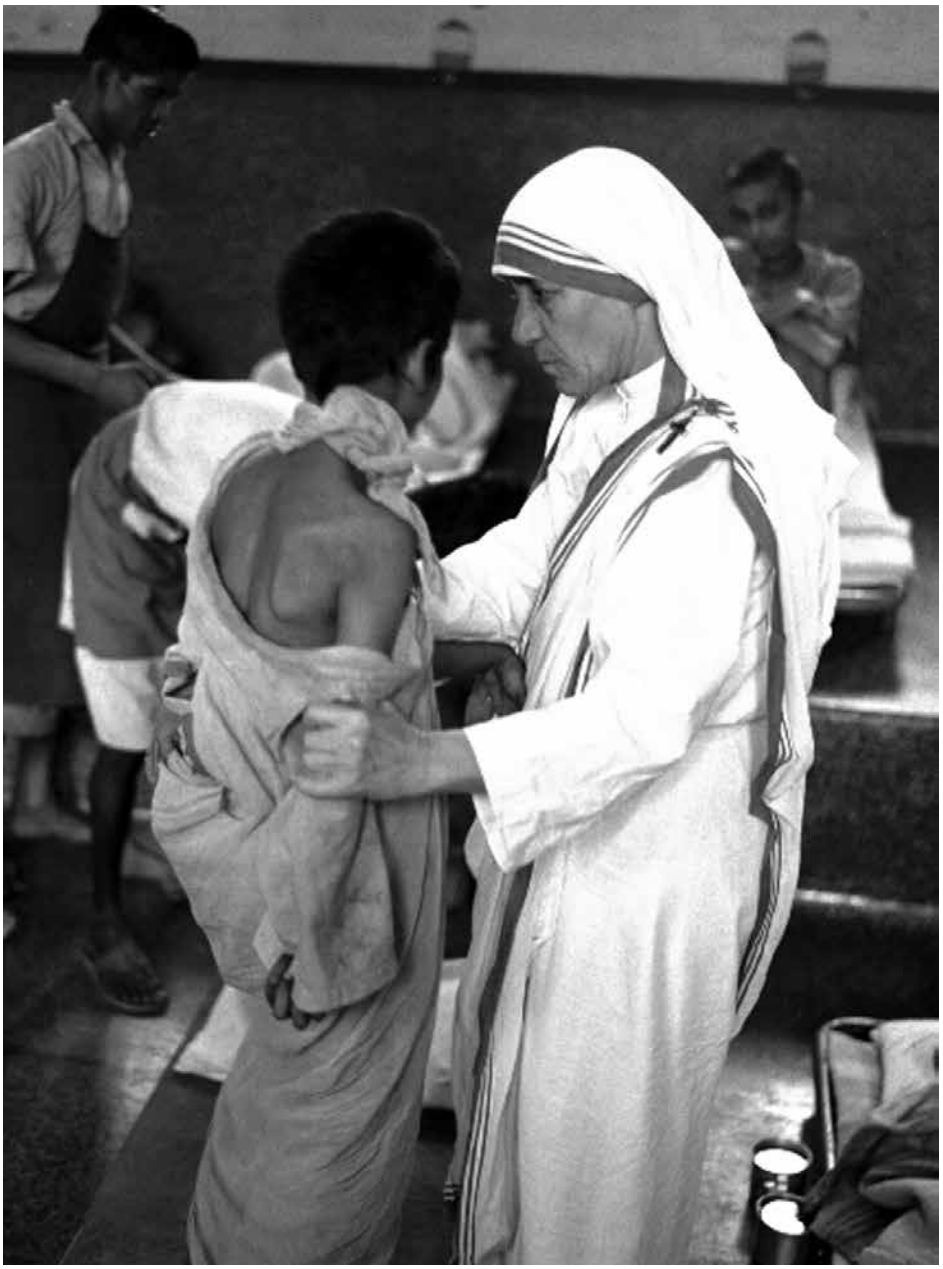
"The first were Janet and Troy Cronen. Life begins at conception and regardless of when it ends, the person deserves the dignity of a burial. I promised them I'd help give their miscarried child, Lee, a proper burial," said Deacon Pardew.

He called a friend and asked her to ask a bunch of friends for $20 each to gather the $250 needed. Two hours later she called back with $1000 committed. He protested that he only needed $250 – she assured him he would need more for future babies. The Angel Lee Cronen fund was set up through the Catholic Community Foundation and for 20 years has mercifully helped parents through these tough moments. Deacon William Radio has stepped up to help with the ministry.

Blessed are the clean of heart: for they shall see God

There is little doubt about the undivided love of God by St. Teresa of Calcutta.

Deacons Harold Pardew and William Radio



Saint Theresa of Calcutta ministers to a youth. (CNS photo courtesy Catholic Press Photo)

How often she encouraged not only her Missionaries of Charity, but all of us, to see the face of Christ in everyone we encounter.

From the origins of the community St. Teresa wanted the focus on Jesus. She was concerned that letters and papers regarding the creation of the community would be misunderstood.

In communicating to her spiritual director and Archbishop Ferdinand Pirier, who helped establish the Missionaries, she wrote, "… I have entrusted my deepest thoughts – my love for Jesus – and his tender love for me—please do not give anything of 1946. I want the work to remain only His. When the beginning will be known people will think more of me—less of Jesus … I am only His instrument—why so much about me—when the work is all His. I hold no claim to it. It was given to me." From the book *Mother Teresa, Come Be My Light*, 2007, pp. 5-6.

But of course what makes her ministry, her leadership of the Missionaries and her extraordinary evangelization in India and around the world so remarkable is that she did these things while feeling a spiritual emptiness and separation from God.

In another letter to Archbishop Perier, having earlier described feeling the absence of God, she wrote, "Please pray for me, that it may please God to lift this darkness from my soul for only a few days. For sometimes the agony of desolation is so great and at the same time the longing for the Absent One so deep, that the only prayer which I can still say is "Sacred Heart of Jesus, I trust in Thee, I will satiate Thy thirst for souls." p. 165

Over time and with the help of spiritual directors she came to some peace about her spiritual situation.

"For the first time in this 11 years I have come to love the darkness. For I believe now that it is a part, a very, very small part of Jesus' darkness and pain on earth … Today I felt a deep joy that Jesus can't go anymore through the agony, but that He wants to go through it in me. More than ever I surrender myself to Him." p. 214

Her clean heart has led so many to see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God

Father Charles Duman, now in his 90s, was new to the parish as its pastor. Someone didn't care for him. Rumors, untruths and more were anonymously spread. Thinking he knew who was behind it, he confronted the person only to learn he was wrong and the person had nothing to do with it.

Thirty years later and retired Fr. Duman attended a priest retreat during which the retreat director gave a talk on forgiveness. It hit him and he felt the need to seek the forgiveness of the man he had wrongly accused, and to let go of the resentment he had felt for so long.

On his way home from the retreat he sought out and found the man. Stopping

Father Charles Duman

at his house "trembling," he discovered something he had forgotten – he had actually sent a letter of apology and the man had long ago forgotten about the whole thing.

Fr. Duman calls it "one of the most important lessons in nearly 66 years of priesthood," so much so that he shared the story with his brother priests and deacons at a clergy gathering last year celebrating his 65th priesthood anniversary. The reconciliation of the two men led to a friendship that lasted until the other man died.

"Reconciliation brings peace. You hang on to things and you know you should deal with it. I'm so glad I did," said Fr. Duman.

Blessed are they that suffer persecution for justice' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

The Oblate Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament have been walking with Native Americans for decades. The brokenness and persecution found today have their roots in history, but of course the injustices can still be found today.

That does not deter the actions of the community in seeking justice.

"The works of mercy that we do and our ministries are meant as acts of reparation and atonement," said Sister Miriam Shindelar, community leader. "It is our deepest desire that our presence can serve in some small way to further the cause of reconciliation and healing.

"Through all this there is joy and peace," she said. "We are a Eucharist-centered community who are deeply grateful to have the Eucharistic Presence of Jesus in our Convent Chapel, and who are able to bring this sacramental Jesus to some of those we serve."

There is a peaceful trust in God as they do what they can.

"Our joy comes from knowing that we are serving God and that God who has sustained us in the past will continue to do so in the future. We trust that God has begun the work here and will see it accomplished according to the Divine Plan," Sr. Miriam said.

"Our sisters are privileged to be here on this Reservation for we receive far more than we give."

The beatitudes show us the spiritual features of Jesus and thus express his mystery, the mystery of his death and resurrection, of his passion and of the joy of his resurrection. This mystery, which is the mystery of true blessedness, invites us to follow Jesus and thus to walk toward it.

To the extent that we accept his proposal and set out to follow him - each one in his own circumstance - we too can participate in his blessedness.

Pope Benedict XVI, Homily, Nov. 1, 2006, from The Joy of Knowing Christ, The Word Among Us Press, 2009.

Sr. Miriam Shindelar supervising the distribution of furniture from a generous benefactor.

Can using technology be spiritual?

The final chapter of St. Matthew's Gospel says: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age". (28:19-20)

Dawn Wolf, Information Systems Director and Carla Haiar, Database Administrator, are part of the diocesan information technology management team. (Photo by Bill Sealey)

Those are the marching orders for all Catholics. So how do we do that in this day and age? Personal witness and how we live our lives are a must but we can't ignore how technology can assist us in our mission to be disciples of Jesus.

However, can we all agree that at times technology can be super frustrating? After particularly frustrating episodes, have you ever heard comments like "I need to go to confession" or "technology is causing me to lose my religion"? We specialize in helping parishes, priests, deacons, schools and other Catholic entities before they get to that point. The technology office staff takes great joy in helping with any and all matters of technology. We have a saying "If it plugs into the wall or has a battery, it's considered technology and we'll work with it".

In 2005, the diocese standardized the software that all of our parishes use to manage the day to day work of the parish. This software helps the parishes with accounting, religious education, liturgical scheduling and keeping accurate information for the families in their parish. We provide daily software support and training to all our parishes and truly enjoy working with the staff and volunteers at the parish. This diocesan support has resulted in 35% reduced annual software licensing cost to the parishes.

The office also provides technology assistance and training to Broom Tree Retreat Center, Bishop Dudley Hospitality House, Adoration Sisters, St. Michael Cemetery and the Catholic schools outside of Sioux Falls.

Dawn Wolf, Carla Haiar and Adam Staebell make up the technology team.

Carla Haiar specializes in all things data. She is a marvel at extracting and managing data and applying business intelligence analysis to that data for pastors and other managers. Application integration, development and reporting are other talents that she brings to the team. During the Catholic Family Sharing Appeal for 2018, the diocese partnered with an online giving platform to enable a donor to give securely online to ANY parish. Immediately after a gift was received, an e-mail was sent to the parish office designated on the gift by the donor. Centralizing the donor platform, we are able to offer this service to our smaller parishes that are not able to provide an online giving solution due to cost or staffing.

Adam Staebell is the hardware guy and can literally fix almost anything. We are able to save a significant amount of money and pass those savings onto our parishes and other entities because of Adam's skills. Adam also handles many of the support phone calls from our parishes, priests, deacons and Chancery staff.

Dawn Wolf is the director of the technology office team and does her best to identify areas in diocesan or parish offices and ministries that could use a better solution to be more productive or more effective. She relishes discovering great solutions for little or no cost. For example, now days even the smallest parishes need a parish website. In the last two years, Dawn has been assisting over 50 parishes in the creation and management of their own websites for very little money. Always on the hunt for free or low cost tools, we assist many of our entities in purchasing needed software like Microsoft Office or Adobe Acrobat and many more at significantly reduced non-profit prices.

Training is another service that the tech office offers. We offer everything from short one hour "Lunch and Learn" sessions to full day sessions. We are always willing to go "on location" and help parish or school staff with specific focused trainings that meet their needs. Last year, thanks to a special grant from the Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota, we were able to offer a full day of workshops on technology and social media topics in three regional areas of our diocese. Ministry Tech Days was well received and we plan to offer this training day again.

As IT professionals in the ever changing arena of technology, collaboration is key – especially on a small budget. We are so grateful to the numerous professionals across our diocese who share their expertise with the diocesan church.

So can using technology be spiritual? Our answer would be a resounding yes, if used in a manner that speaks the truth. We think Pope St. John Paul II said it best in 2005, *"Do not be afraid of new technologies! These rank among the marvelous things –inter mirifica – which God has placed at our disposal to discover, to use and to make known the truth, also the truth about our dignity and about our destiny as his children, heirs of His eternal Kingdom."*

Dawn Wolf is a Information Systems director for the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls. She and her team can be contacted at 605-334-9861 or dawnwolf@sfcatholic.org.

Be Vigilant: Learn about and report child abuse

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. As Catholics, we believe in protecting the life and dignity of every human person, and have an obligation to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

This month, the Office of Safe Environment for the diocese encourages you to learn how to recognize and report suspected abuse in your area, and to dedicate a rosary every Friday to the defense of the vulnerable and the healing of victims and survivors.

Our Effort to Protect

The Diocese of Sioux Falls requires all adult employees and volunteers who interact with minors at our parishes or Catholic schools to complete an annual Safe Environment Program that includes an abuse awareness video and criminal background check. Students enrolled at our schools and religious education programs also complete an age-appropriate program to educate them about abuse and empower them to report.

These programs are implemented on site by local coordinators. Thanks to them, approximately 3,500 adult employees and volunteers, and 13,543 youth learned how to recognize, prevent, and report abuse during the 2016-17 academic year.

How to Report Abuse

In South Dakota, all counties have reported cases of child sexual abuse, and according to South Dakota's Jolene's Law Task Force, at least 4,000 children every year experience sexual abuse from offenders who are known by and/or related to the child.

If you know or have reason to believe someone has been physically or emotionally abused, neglected, sexually abused, and/or exploited, call your local law enforcement, local department of social services office, county state's attorney office, or 911.

For more information about the Diocese of Sioux Falls Safe Environment Program, and resources to help you learn more about abuse, go to www.sfcatholic.org/safe-environment.

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Beautifully Made: A women's conference set for this month

Final arrangements are being made for this month's women's conference.

"Beautifully Made: A Women's Conference," will feature nationally recognized authors and speakers, as well as music, food, prayer and fun.

The event is set for April 14 at the Sioux Falls Convention Center.

The keynote speaker for the event is Lisa Cotter.

Cotter focuses on relationships, femininity and "living life with excellence" in her presentation. She uses practical insights and humor in a theological message.

Also featured will be Emily Stimson of Pittsburgh, PA. Stimson is a free-lance writer who addresses topics from politics to higher education. She writes with a particular focus on the Catholic Church's teachings on marriage, sexuality and femininity.

Christian songwriter Sarah Kroger of Melbourne, FL, will also be featured.

The event begins at 9 a.m. and runs through an evening concert and Eucharistic Adoration in the evening.

Registration is available at www.sfcatholic.org /womensconference.

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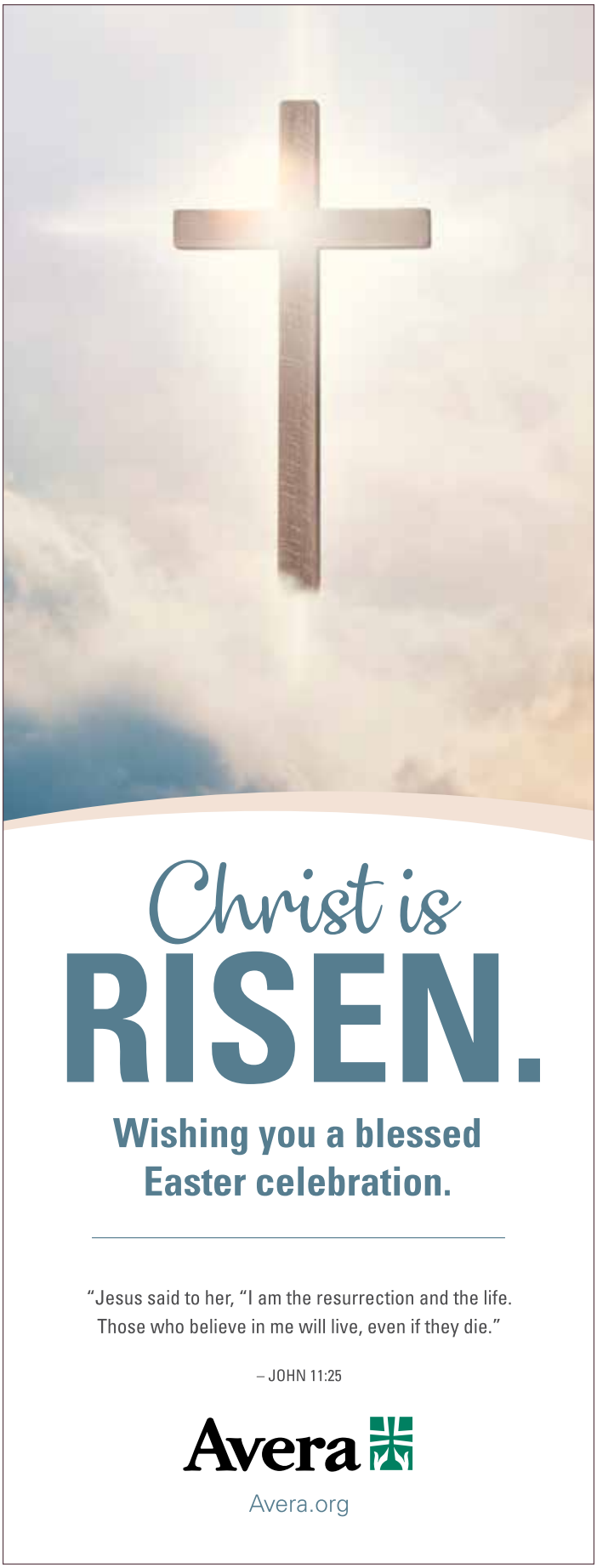

Legislative session concludes; work for the Catholic Conference does not

The South Dakota Legislature concluded its 2018 legislative session.

The South Dakota Catholic Conference monitored the session and offers a 2018 legislative recap:

Senate Bill 110 was signed into law after strong support in both legislative chambers. The bill strengthens the responsibilities of pregnancy help centers, which seek to support mothers facing unplanned pregnancies. The law builds on a foundation of pro-life legislative action in South Dakota.

House Bill 1123 was defeated in the Senate after first passing through the House. The bill would have prevented the seriously mentally ill from receiving the death penalty if convicted of capital crimes. This was the first time in several years that such legislation succeeded in even a single chamber, and it gave occasion to discuss the Church's teaching, as stated at paragraph 2267 of the Catechism, and to share the pro-life witness joyfully proclaimed by Pope St. John Paul II.

Faithful citizenship in the public square is an important duty. Above all else, our lives must be shaped and guided by our burning love for Jesus. Even in politics, He will show us the way.

To help in the work of the SDCC? Join its e-ail list at sdcatholicconference.org.

Cathedral Arts Series has two more concerts to share

The Cathedral Arts Series will host two more performances in the 2017-2018 season.

Up next will be the Cathedral Choir featured for the concert , on Wednesday, May 2 at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls.

The "Founder's Concert" that night will be held at 7 p.m.

The Cathedral Choir's "Founders' Concert" each May commemorates the construction of the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, as well as the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker, patron of the Cathedral.

The 2017-2018 season closes with a second performance by vocal ensemble Transept, under the direction of Dr. Timothy Campbell.

Transept – "Radiant as the Sun: The music of Monteverdi, Schütz, and Purcell" will be featured Tuesday, May 15 at 7 p.m. In this concert, Transept will be joined by an instrumental ensemble for the glorious late Renaissance/early Baroque music of Monteverdi, Schütz and Purcell.

Tickets are available for both performances at www.sfcatholic.org/SAS or at the door the night of the performance.

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Rachel's Vineyard retreat changing format while helping those in need

Catholic Family Services staffers and other professionals and volunteers are working to prepare for the next Rachel's Vineyard retreat being offered in May.

The retreat is taking on a new format this time offering a one day retreat on May 5.

The retreat is an opportunity for any person who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion.

In the past, Rachel's Vineyard retreats have spanned a weekend. Catholic Family Services staff wanted to explore offering the Rachel's Vineyard retreats as a single day offering to see if that would assist people who wanted to attend in the past but could not.

Because of the subject matter and the people the retreat seeks to help, there is absolute confidentiality connected to the retreat.

Participants are notified for the location once they sign up to attend.

The program has proven to be helpful to a range of men and women including grandparents, moms and dads.

The Rachel's Vineyard retreats were started in 1984 in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Since then, they have expanded to 350 sites in almost all 50 states and 70 other countries around the globe.

In the Diocese of Sioux Falls, Catholic Family Services hosts Rachel's Vineyard retreats twice a year, one in the spring and one in the fall.

For registration materials and more information, call 605-988-3775 or 1-800-700-7867 or e-mail cfs@sfcatholic.org.

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Director of Music/Liturgy Ministry - Watertown

Candidate is responsible for coordinating music and music selections for the parish including Masses, Holy Days and other liturgical celebrations. The candidate must be proficient in organ and piano. The candidate will coordinate all persons involved in liturgical ministries as well as oversee the aesthetic décor of the worship space. Along with a joyful and faith filled presence we hope for a person who can interact with a variety of people and lead choirs and instrumentalists. Background check and Safe Environment Training is required.

For a more complete job description please email our parish at **office@icparishwatertown.org** Qualified applicants should submit a letter of interest, a resume and three references to:
Fr. Paul Rutten, Pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish,
309 2nd Ave SE, Watertown, South Dakota 57201

Local
Church

Empty bowls soup supper raises funds for homeless ministries

Diners recently enjoyed a meal of soup, bread and dessert at O'Gorman High School, Sioux Falls as part of the Empty Bowls fund raiser. The students at O'Gorman use the meal to help raise money for local agencies that feed the hungry and homeless. More than 100 students help with the event. Because all the food is donated, all proceeds will go to local agencies that feed the poor. (Photo by Gene Young)

STUDENTS AND SENIORS ENJOY A SPECIAL NIGHT OF FUN

Students from O'Gorman High School, Sioux Falls, including Sophia Salter (pictured at right) danced the night away as part of this year's special "Senior Prom" at Avera Prince of Peace nursing home and retirement community.

Staff at the facility decorate for the facility up big for the evening and then wait for the O'Gorman students to arrive and dance and party with the residents.

The students try to schedule this event each year and it is a treat for residents, students and staff.

(Photo courtesy, Doug Basche, O'Gorman High School, Sioux Falls)

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Benedictine Multicultural Center celebrates tenth anniversary

The Benedictine Multicultural Center, sponsored by Mother of God Monastery, Watertown, is celebrating 10 years of service to the greater Watertown community.

Since the doors were opened in February 2008, over 36,800 people of all faiths and cultures have been welcomed and served by the Benedictine Multicultural Center (BMC) staff.

The services provided are education, immigration assistance, dental care assistance, multicultural resources and pastoral care.

The education offered is for English speakers who want to learn Spanish, English as a second language (ESL) and citizenship classes. Each summer, a youth program is offered for children ages 8-12. They learn about the culture, food, arts and sports of different countries. "The ESL classes are extremely important to the adult students and to the greater Watertown community. Students who have taken the classes are from China, Viet Nam, Poland, Guatemala, Mexico, Brazil, Italy and more. They now are able to communicate in English which helps them, their employers as well as all businesses and service providers with whom they have contact" states Jennifer Vick, Mother of God Monastery communications director.

Translation and interpretation services are given for health care, school appointments and work issues. With the oversight of an immigration attorney, assistance is provided for the submission of legal immigration applications. The BMC is filled with bilingual (Spanish/English) pastoral resources, films and other information on immigration and multicultural issues. Cultural enrichment is also important to the Sisters and the staff of the BMC.

For more information on the Benedictine Multicultural Center: 605-878-2021 or srteeresawolf@gmail.com.

Karen Jaskulka is pointing out BMC photos from the last 10 years to Father Mike Wensing, pastor, Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Watertown, during a recent open house at the Multi Cultural Center, Watertown, (Photo courtesy, Jennifer Vick, communications director, Mother of God Monastery, Watertown)

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UPCOMING RETREATS

SILENT RETREAT

Men's 2018
April 19-22, 2018
May 17-20, 2018
September 20-23, 2018
October 25-28, 2018

Women's 2018
May 3-6, 2018
June 21-24, 2018
August 9-12, 2018
September 6-9, 2018
October 18-21, 2018
November 15-18, 2018

DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Broom Tree Days of Recollection begin at 10 a.m. and consist of conferences, time for Adoration, Mass, and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day ends in mid-afternoon. Because lunch is also served, we ask that you please register. A prayerful donation is requested.

April 17: "The Heart of the Book of Romans"
- with Fr. Andrew Dickinson

May 15: "The World's Greatest Treasure: Friendship with God"
- with Fr. Joe Vogel

SPECIAL RETREATS

May 11-12: Conference for Women
- with Fr. Scott Traynor

This year we are offering an overnight conference as a gift for all women. It's a chance to get away for a night, spend some time with the Lord, visit with friends or better yet, make new ones! Father Traynor will be here to offer us good counsel as to how we can best live out our common call to holiness in daily life. The overnight also includes Mass Friday evening and Saturday morning, times for confession, communal Morning Prayer and a Social on Friday night. While there may be times of silence during this event, it is not a silent retreat. Babies are welcome.

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ABERDEEN AREA

Sacred Heart Parish of Aberdeen SD is currently accepting applications for a **Parish Director of Discipleship & Evangelization**

The incumbent will assist the Pastor with the formation needs of Sacred Heart parishioners. Responsibilities include planning, organizing and sometimes leading parish events, training and programs as well as recruiting, equipping and forming discipleship leaders to further the mission of discipleship and evangelization within the parish and community. A detailed Job Description can be found at **www.sacredheartaberdeen.net**, or at the Parish Office.

Please send inquiries and resumes to:
Father Mark Lichter, 502 2nd Ave SE, Aberdeen SD 57401

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Committed in CHRIST

ABERDEEN – Ben and Lori Hofer will celebrate their 30th anniversary on Apr. 30. They have 2 children, 1 grandchild and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.

BROOKINGS – Fred and Mary Lee Meyer will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Apr. 6. They have 2 children, 13 grandchildren and are members of St. Thomas More Parish.

CHAMBERLAIN – Chuck and Joyce Selland will celebrate their 40th anniversary on Apr. 8. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. James Parish.

DANTE – Donald and Dolores Kotab will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Apr. 20. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren (1 deceased) and are members of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish.

EPIPHANY – Joe and Pat Zens will celebrate their 40th anniversary on Apr. 15. They have 2 children and are members of Epiphany Parish.

HUMBOLDT – Merle and Beverly Sechser will celebrate their 60th anniversary on Apr. 19. They have 10 children, 43 grandchildren (3 deceased), 41 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Ann Parish.

HUMBOLDT – Ken and Dianne Struck will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Apr. 20. They have 4 children, 12 grandchildren and are members of St. Ann Parish.

HUNTIMER – Steve and Mary Theisen will celebrate their 40th anniversary on Apr. 8. They have 5 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Joseph the Workman Parish.

MELLETTE – Jerome and Lisa Morgan will celebrate their 40th anniversary on Apr. 9. They have 4 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of All Saints Parish.

MILBANK – Richard and Dixie Hendricks will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Apr. 27. They have 10 children, 25 grandchildren, 2 great-grand children and are members of St. Lawrence Parish.

MITCHELL – Doug and Ila Cunningham will celebrate their 35th anniversary on Apr. 22. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of the Holy Family Parish.

PIERRE – Gordon and Lois Van Ash will celebrate their 65th anniversary on Apr. 9. They have 7 children (2 deceased), 12 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great-grandchild and are members of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish.

POLO – Leon and Barb Kolda will celebrate their 40th anniversary on Apr. 22. They have 4 children, 8 grandchildren and are members of St. Liborius Parish.

SIOUX FALLS – Darrel and Susan Huber celebrated their 40th anniversary on Mar 31. They have 3 children, 2 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.

SIOUX FALLS – John and Mary Lou Tunender will celebrate their 60th anniversary on May 8. They have 4 children, 12 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Lambert Parish.

SIOUX FALLS – Todd and Kim Lynde will celebrate their 25th anniversary on Apr. 30. They are members of St. Michael Parish.

SIOUX FALLS – Dan and Angie Taft will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Apr. 15. They have 2 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Katharine Drexel Parish.

VERMILLION – Dennis and Sally Manning will celebrate their 60th anniversary on Apr. 19. They have 4 children, 8 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Agnes Parish.

WATERTOWN – Tom and Barb Endres celebrated their 60th anniversary on Feb. 15. They have 5 children, 9 grandchildren and are members of Immaculate Conception Parish.

SIOUX FALLS – Dale and Rose Carman celebrated their 50th anniversary on Mar. 16. They are members of Holy Spirit Parish.

Anniversary submissions

Send a color photo, your anniversary news and a self-addressed, stamped envelope by April 16 for inclusion in the May 2018 edition to:
The Bishop's Bulletin
523 North Duluth Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
or e-mail to:
gyoung@sfcatholic.org.

Committed in CHRIST

Father Aloysius Krzyzopolski

Reverend Aloysius L. "Al" Krzyzopolski died Feb. 27 at Avera Dougherty House in Sioux Falls where he had been entrusted to hospice care.

He was 93.

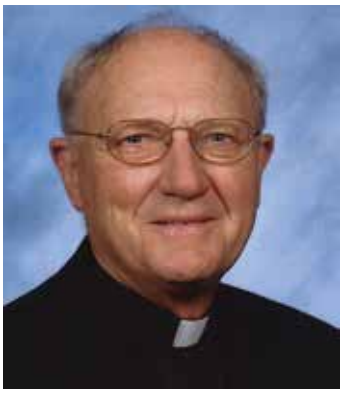
A Mass of Christian Burial was prayed for Father Krzyzopolski on Mar. 6 at St. Mary Church, Sioux Falls. Interment followed at St. Michael Cemetery, Sioux Falls.

Aloysius Leo Krzyzopolski was born July 13, 1924 on the family farm near Chelsea.

The son of Leo and Dora Krzyzopolski, he is the fourth child and first born son in a family of 11 children. He attended Catholic grade school in Aberdeen before enrolling in the minor seminary at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, Ohio. He remained at the Josephinum through major seminary.

On June 3, 1950, he was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Sioux Falls by the Apostolic Delegate in Worthington, OH.

Father Krzyzopolski was assigned as an associate pastor at Immaculate Conception Parish in Watertown. He then served as pastor at Annunciation Parish, Revillo (including Wilmot), St. Michael Parish, Mount Vernon (including Emsley & Delmont), St. Nicholas Parish, Tea (including Lennox), Holy Family Parish, Mitchell, St. Therese Parish, Sioux Falls, Ss. Simon and Jude Parish, Flandreau and St. Mary



Rev. Aloysius Krzyzopolski

Parish, Sioux Falls. He also served as rector at the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

Father Krzyzopolski also served as chaplain to the Presentation Sisters' Children's Home.

Father Krzyzopolski served on many advisory committees including the Priest Council, the Priest Retirement board, and the St. Michael Cemetery Board. He was also chaplain to the Engaged and Married Encounter movements of the Church and was instrumental in establishing a Retrouvaille Program in the diocese to assist marriages that were struggling.

Upon retirement from assigned ministry, Father Krzyzopolski offered substitute coverage in parishes, led a regular Bible study and served as a judge in he Diocesan Marriage Tribunal.

Father Krzyzopolski is survived by his sister Patty Barnes of Redding, CA and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and 9 siblings.

Father Pius Mardian

Reverend Pius Mardian died Mar. 9 at Avera Prince of Peace in Sioux Falls where he had been entrusted to hospice care.

He was 99.

A Mass of Christian Burial was prayed for Father Mardian on Mar. 14 at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Sioux Falls.

Interment followed in a family plot at St. Mary Cemetery, Aberdeen.

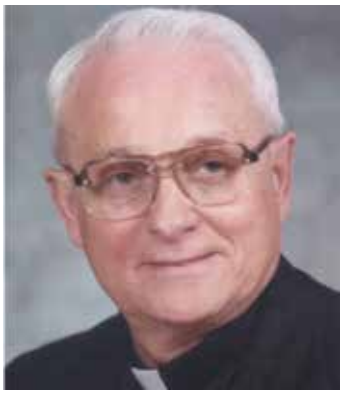
Pius Mardian was born on June 15, 1918 in Bowdle.

His parents, Anton and Regina (née Heitz) Mardian raised 2 boys and 4 girls, five of whom had a vocation to religious life including his brother, the late Father Joseph Mardian.

After attending country school, he entered minor seminary at Saint John's University in Collegeville, MN. He would go on to attend major seminary at Saint Paul Seminary in Saint Paul, MN.

On December 17, 1944, he was ordained to the priesthood by the Most Reverend William O. Brady, Bishop of Sioux Falls, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

Upon ordination Father Mardian was assigned to serve as an associate pastor at St. Mary, Aberdeen. Father Mardian was then appointed to pastoral roles in the parishes at Hecla, Westport, Columbia, Hillsview, Hosmer, Platte, Robey, Waubay, Mobridge, Salem, Vermillion, White



Rev. Pius Mardian

Lake, Kimball, and Colman.

In addition to pastoral assignments, Father Mardian served as chaplain to the South Dakota Knights of Columbus and as an honorary chaplain to the United States Army.

He also served as a dean and on the presbyteral council for the Diocese.

In February of 1993, Father Mardian retired from assigned ministry. After completing an adventuresome trip around the world with his brother, Father Mardian took up residence at the Prince of Peace retirement community.

For the remaining 25 years of his life, the Prince of Peace community became his parish family.

Father Mardian is survived by a nephew and four nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, and one niece.

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Pope Francis: Crucifix is a sign of God's Love, not just a piece of jewelry

Vatican City (CNS) - The revelation of God's love toward humanity is made known through contemplating the crucifix and not just using it as work of art or as a fashion accessory, Pope Francis said. Through the image of Christ crucified, the mystery of Jesus' death "as a supreme act of love, source of life and salvation for humanity in every age is revealed," the pope said before reciting the Angelus prayer with pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square. "Today's Gospel invites us to turn our gaze toward the crucifix, which is not an ornamental object or a clothing accessory -- that is often abused -- but a religious sign to contemplate and comprehend," he said. The pope reflected on the day's Gospel reading from St. John, in which Jesus foreshadows his death through the imagery of the grain of wheat that, once dead, "produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life," Jesus said.

South Carolina artist honors memories of Holocaust victims

West Columbia, SC (CNS) - Mary Burkett never had formal art lessons. Drawing was something she resolved to try as a hobby in January 2017. She decided to sketch the face of a little boy she saw in a black and white photo on the internet. To her surprise, Burkett was able to produce his image on the paper with amazing ease. "It was like he was already there waiting for me, like he just peeked out at me," she told The Catholic Miscellany, newspaper of the Diocese of Charleston. "I was entirely amazed. I didn't feel like I had drawn him. I felt like he was hidden in the page." The image is of a boy with a wide-open gaze, fair hair spilling from under a vintage-style cap cocked back on his head. He looks bemused, as if he was forced to pause for a portrait on his way out the door to play. It wasn't until later that she discovered the photo was of a Romanian Jewish boy named Hersch Goldberg. He died at Auschwitz in 1944, one of millions of children who were victims of the Holocaust. Burkett had a visceral and emotional reaction to the innocent yet haunting face of Hersch. The fact that his life had been cruelly ended before it ever really began led her to search out images of other children with similar fates. She felt as if she knew Hersch after drawing him and she wanted to learn the stories of other children like him.

Pope ordains three new nuncios, including Canadian

Vatican City (CNS) - Pope Francis ordained three new bishops who will serve as papal nuncios, or ambassadors. The new bishops are: Archbishop Jose Bettencourt, a priest of the Archdiocese of Ottawa and former head of diplomatic protocol for the Vatican; Archbishop Alfred Xuereb, a Maltese who was general secretary of the Vatican Secretariat for the Economy and had served as assistant personal secretary to Pope Benedict XVI; and Archbishop Waldemar Sommertag, a career Vatican diplomat from Poland. Archbishop Bettencourt will be nuncio to Georgia and Armenia; Archbishop Xuereb will take up posts as the nuncio to South Korea and to Mongolia; and Archbishop Sommertag will serve as nuncio to Nicaragua. Pope Francis read the ritual homily for the ordination of bishops during the Mass, but he added a few comments. Reading the homily's reminder that a bishop is chosen to minister to men and women in the things related to God, the pope said they were not chosen for other tasks, "not for business, not for worldly affairs, not for politics."

Pope asks youths to help rejuvenate church; youths ask church to listen

Rome (CNS) - The Catholic Church needs the enthusiasm, daring and hope of young people so that it can preach the Gospel energetically and respond to the questions men and women raise today, Pope Francis told some 300 young adults. "We need to rediscover in the Lord the strength to get up after failure, to move forward, to strengthen hope for the future," the pope said, opening a weeklong meeting in preparation for October's Synod of Bishops. Most of the young people gathered with the pope at the Legionaries of Christ's Maria Mater Ecclesia College in Rome were chosen as delegates by their national bishops' conferences. Others represented a variety of Catholic movements or ministries, including religious life. But the Vatican also invited delegates from other Christian churches, other religions, including Islam, and young people who describe themselves as nonbelievers. Pope Francis told the young people that they are the ones who can help the church fight "the logic of 'it's always been done this way,'" which he described as "a poison, a sweet poison that tranquilizes the heart and leaves you anesthetized so you can't walk."

Future priests must be able to 'see where mercy is needed,' says nuncio

Emmitsburg, MD. (CNS) - The apostolic nuncio to the United States challenged an audience of seminarians, faculty and staff at Mount St. Mary's Seminary to see future priests not as functionaries of the sacred or managers of a business, but as compassionate pastors and missionaries who joyfully announce the Gospel. "(The future priest) must have the ability to see where mercy is needed and the healthy zeal to make himself readily available to apply the healing balm of God's mercy with the love of a genuine father and pastor," Archbishop Christophe Pierre said in a March 8 address to about 200 people in Emmitsburg, which is in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. The church needs a new missionary spirit, the French prelate insisted, one that encounters and engages an increasingly secularized world. Priests must be fundamentally trained to be heralds of the good news, he said. "At times, we have this self-referential mentality," he explained. "The pope is fighting against that. We are at the service of the people. We have a special ministry to help the people to live their vocation."

Pope by numbers: Vatican releases statistics of Francis' pontificate

Vatican City (CNS) - In just five years as leader of the universal church, Pope Francis has made 22 international trips, traveling 154,906 miles -- the equivalent of six times around the world. He also has declared 880 new saints, which includes the martyrdom of an estimated 800 Italian laymen killed by Ottoman soldiers in the 15th century. Those numbers and more were released by the Vatican, detailing the many papal events, documents, travels and accomplishments the past five years. The numbers, released March 17, cover the period from March 19, 2013 -- the solemnity of St. Joseph, the day officially inaugurating the start of his pontificate -- to March 19, 2018.

Parish Dinners/Socials

Apr. 8/St. Mary Parish, Sioux Falls, will host its annual turkey dinner; serving will be 10:45 a.m.-2:15 p.m. at the church hall, 2109 S. 5th Ave.; take outs available; pre-sale cost is $8 for adults; $9 at the door; children 4-11 are $5; tickets are on sale Apr. 7 following the 4 p.m. Mass only.

Apr. 21/Catholic Daughter's Court St. Christina #2336 (Lennox, Canton, Worthing and Tea) will hold its annual salad luncheon and card party at St. Nicholas Church, 140 West Brian St., Tea at 11:30 a.m.; this year's theme is "Let Your Light Shine"; tickets are $8 per person; for reservations, call Diane Biver at 360-4679.

Adult education offered at S.F. parish Tuesday, Apr. 3 - Adult education at Holy Spirit Parish, Sioux Falls, will be on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Room. The presenter is Father Tyler Mattson, parochial vicar, Holy Spirit Parish, Sioux Falls. His presentation will be "Encountering God Through Poetry." An opportunity for questions and answers will follow.

Yankton parish offering 40 Hour Devotion and Divine Mercy Sunday celebration Apr. 6-8 - St. Benedict Parish, Yankton, will host a 40 Hour Devotion and Divine Mercy Sunday celebration April 6-8. The special guest speaker and singer will be Trish Short, known for her appearances on EWTN and singing the Chaplet of Divine Mercy in song. The events begin Friday evening with the celebration of Mass Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. The Divine Mercy Sunday celebration will begin at 2 p.m. and continue through 3:30 p.m.. For more, call 605-664-6214.

Digital safety seminar program offered Monday, Apr. 16 - Parents play a key role in how their children use digital media. How do you keep your child safe from online predators? What apps are used by youth to engage in risky behavior? Hollie Strand will share practical information to help parents keep children safe while online. This free event is hosted by Sioux Falls Catholic Schools. The event is set for Monday, Apr. 16 at 7 p.m. at O'Gorman High School, 3100 W. 41 St., Sioux Falls.

Presentation Sisters

May 12/Cinco de Mayo festival will be Saturday at Falls Park, Sioux Falls from 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Cinco de Mayo is a family event that recognizes, appreciates and celebrates the cultural gifts and heritage of the Latino people in our midst; the event is a benefit for Caminando Juntos, an outreach ministry to the newly arrived Latino immigrants in the Sioux Falls area and is sponsored by the Presentation Sisters.

Sacred Heart Monastery

Apr. 8 and May 6/Eucharistic Adoration is usually offered on the first Sunday of the month from 2-4 p.m. in the upper chapel of Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel, Yankton; in April, Eucharistic Adoration will be offered on the second Sunday since Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.

Contemplative Morning/The Benedictine Peace Center, Yankton, hosts a morning of contemplative prayer, usually on the third Saturday of every month. For more information or to register for the April 21 session, contact Sister Doris Oberembt at doberembt@mtmc.edu or call 605-668-6292

Spiritual Direction Ministry Formation for those discerning a call to be a spiritual director is now available on a tutorial basis at the Benedictine Peace Center. E-mail benedictinepeacectr@mtmc.edu or call (605) 668-6292.

Silent Retreats/Schedule private retreat time at the Benedictine Peace Center. Come for the number of days that fits your schedule. Retreatants may request a spiritual director and are welcome to join the monastic community for Liturgy of the Hours and Eucharist. Contact benedictinepeacectr@mtmc.edu or 605-668-6292 or visit us at www.yankton-benedictines.org/Center.

Spiritual Direction/A spiritual director is an experienced companion-guide with whom you can share your experience of God, focus on and intensify your journey with God. Contact BenedictinePeaceCtr@mtmc.edu or 605-668-6292 for more information.

Mother of God Monastery

Apr. 13-14/Call of the Soul: The Spirituality of Soul Work will be offered at Harmony Hill Hall, Watertown; the workshop is part informational and part experiential of our relationship with God; suggested donation is $70 which includes room and board; $40 for commuters; Sister Jan LaPlante will facilitate the weekend; to register or if you for more information, contact Sister Emily at 886.4181 Ext. 1 or sisteremily@hotmail.com.

Apr. 21/God in My Paintbrush will be offered Saturday from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Harmony Hill Hall, Watertown; Creativity can open us to surprising ways of experiencing God; no artistic talent is required for this workshop; all materials will be provided; suggested donation is $35 (includes lunch); facilitators are Sister Emily Meisel and Sister Barb Younger; contact Sister Emily to register at 605-886-4181.

Catholic Family Services

Apr. 3 and May 1/Catholic Family Services invites you to join our Living with Chronic Illness group. This is a free educational supportive group that meets the first Tuesday of each month, for those living with chronic illness and their care givers. The group meets at Catholic Family Services 523 N. Duluth Ave. Sioux Falls. For details please call Catholic Family Services, 605-988-3775.

Apr. 5/Children's Grief Program is offered and being directed by Mary Weber; the program begins Thursday from 5:30-7 p.m. at Catholic Family Services, 523 N. Duluth Ave., Sioux Falls; the four-week program is designed for children according to their age and specific loss. To register for this program or for more information contact Catholic Family Services 605-988-3775.

Apr. 17 -May 22/Grieving loss from suicide is a six week program running Apr. 17-May 22 from 6:30–8:30 p.m. at Catholic Family Services, 523 N. Duluth Ave., Sioux Falls; this is a program for families who have lost a loved one from suicide; this is a time when professional support is needed; the program is directed by Dr. Marcie Moran and is non-denominational; cost is a donation; call 988-3775 or e-mail cfs@sfcatholic.org with any questions or to register.

June 16-17/Youth Grief Camp-Catholic Family Services will be offering a Grief Camp for Youth and their Families at Broom Tree Retreat Center; this 2 day camp will include fun activities, discussion and support; call Catholic Family Services at 1-800-7867 or 605-988-3775 for more information.

Broom Tree Retreat Center

Day of Recollection Schedule
Broom Tree Days of Recollection begin at 10 a.m. and consist of conferences, time for Adoration, Mass, and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day ends in mid-afternoon. Because lunch is also served, we ask that you please register. A prayerful donation is requested.

April 17/"The Heart of the Book of Romans" directed by Father Andrew Dickinson

May 15/"The World's Greatest Treasure: Friendship with God" directed by Father Joe Vogel

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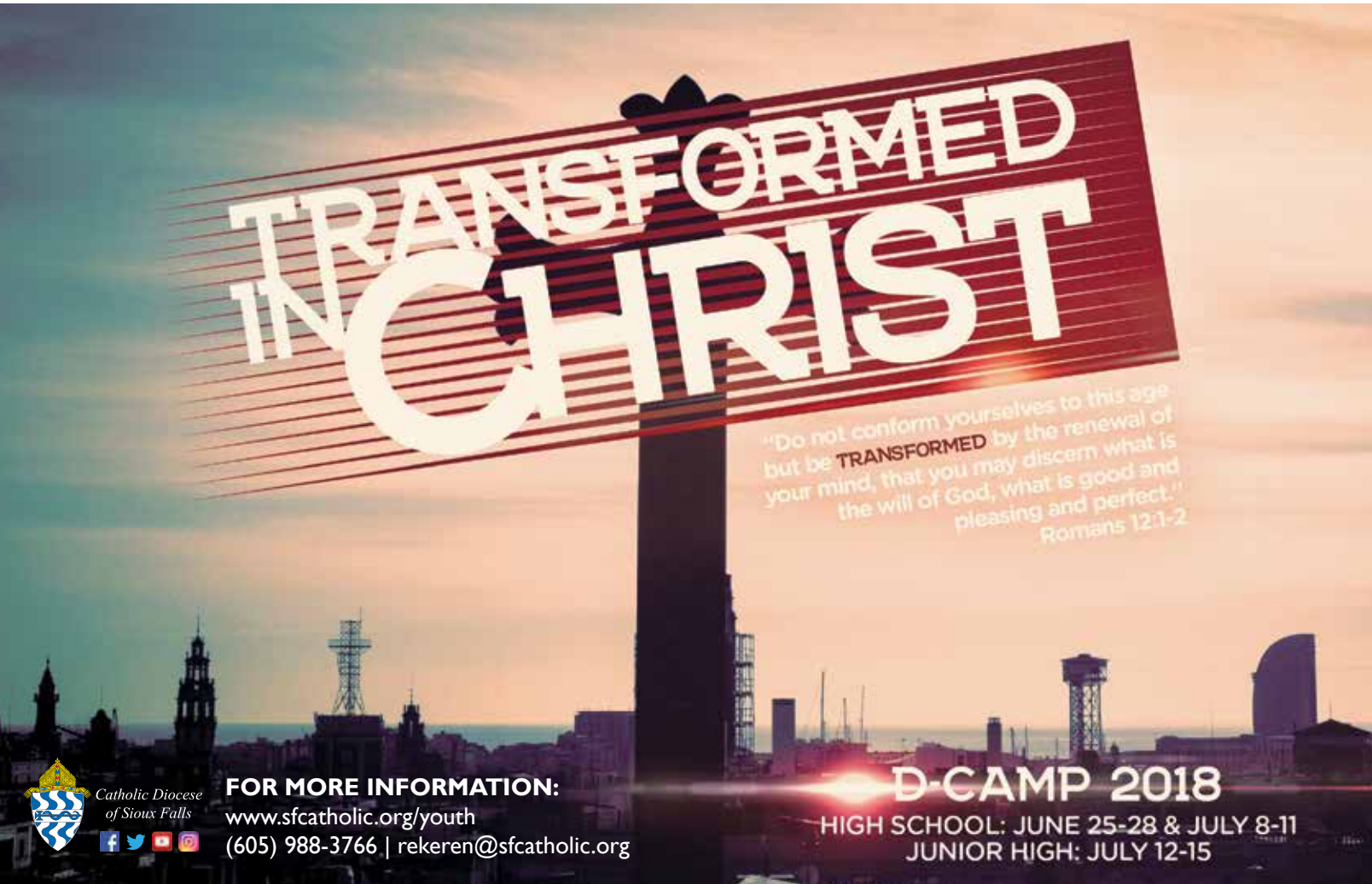
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