



Monthly publication for the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls
March 2018

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

*Finding Support
& Companionship*
in Living the Catholic Faith



One of the privileges a bishop has is to welcome through the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion those seeking baptism and the fullness of the sacraments at the Easter Vigil. I was pleased to do so again a few weeks ago at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph.

It always brings back memories of my own conversion, my own searching for more, my own questioning and the joy of my own welcome into the Church.

It also recalls what I may have shared before, namely the lessons learned from the school of hard knocks on my journey home to the church. These lessons continue to guide me in my continuing conversion toward a deeper relationship with Christ. They include:

Periodically ask why do I do what I do, why do I do it in this way. It is an examination of conscience to be sure the lens through which we view life is noble and that our motives, our intentions, and our goals are worthy. I remember as a lawyer being warned to be able to explain what I do to a group of twelve peers, a jury. Someone wiser suggested that I should ask whether I can explain what I do and say to my grandmother, a tougher judge; or before God, even more humbling.

Remember that we are part of something greater than ourselves, that there is the common good. As confirmed Catholics we ought to care about one another especially the poor, the vulnerable and those hurting. We all have been helped along the way by others – family, teachers, mentors, and friends. We can pass on their care about us to others we should care about.

Respect tradition and learn from history. G.K.

Chesterton wrote that tradition grants a vote to those who went before us, in whose legacy we live and in whose debt we are, the known and unknown saints. From their experiences good and not so good we can learn much and be both inspired and cautioned. We owe those who went before our gratitude and prayers and can learn from them. We also owe respect and acceptance to the tradition of the Church expressed through the popes and Magisterium over the centuries who guided by the Holy Spirit have taught and defended the truth.

Seek the facts as they are not being misled by shallow musings or agendas. In our day of 24 hour media much of what we think we know comes from simplistic headlines we see flashing on TV or on our phones. It is enticing to accept the simplistic spin and the rumors offered by those pushing their cause. The actual facts are often misrepresented, trivialized or if awkward distorted for less than worthy purposes. We need to read, study, probe and pray to discover the actual facts and the truth.

Especially pray for healthy humility. It is human nature to think this is the most important time in the history of the world. Today is important to us of course because it is our time and we are called to use it for good. But it is healthy to recall that time passes and so do people, including some day, us.

At The Bishop's House there is one room with the portraits of the eight bishops of Sioux Falls beginning with the Martin Marty who came to the Dakota Territory as a missionary. Each bishop made an impression in his time in his own way. As people view these portraits the question inevitably is asked, who is that? So whenever I am tempted to get puffed up about my 'important' role today, I am reminded that someday someone will look at my portrait and ask who is that?

Own up to errors and mistakes especially through confession and be forgiving of others and also of yourself. When I was in political life there was a common expression used when someone went against us on some issue:

forgive and remember. We must work with them today, but we cannot wait for the time when payback will be possible. I am still doing penance for those days. Pope Francis calls us a Church and as persons to be merciful.

Have the courage of conviction. There is the story of the non-violence Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi and an English minister in South Africa. The law required that if white persons were walking on the walkway, blacks had to get off. Gandhi from India was considered black. As the two walked they encountered some teenagers who appeared ready to force them off. The minister sensing the confrontation suggested they take another route. I paraphrase here, but Gandhi said "I thought your Jesus said to turn the other cheek." "Well" said the minister clearly scared, "I'm not so arrogant as to think he meant it for me personally." "I don't think so," replied Gandhi, "I think he meant that we need to show courage."

We need the courage to stand up for what is right, good and just even or especially when it is unpopular or hard. We will need such courage in the days ahead to stand up for religious freedom and justice for all, and to oppose racism and the culture of death.

Respect life, all life. Someone said to respect life is simply to love, to will the good of others. Dr. Martin Luther King in one of his sermons discussed the parable of the Good Samaritan. You will recall that a man was beaten, robbed and left along the side of the road. A priest went by and did not stop to

help, and then a Levite went by and did not stop to help. Then a Samaritan, a foreigner, perhaps an immigrant legal or not, came along and did help, at some risk to himself. Dr. King noted that the first question the priest and the Levite likely asked was: 'if I stop to help this man, what will happen to me. But the Good Samaritan reversed the question, if I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him.' What will happen to others is worth our pondering.

Laugh often and keep perspective. I read that children laugh 500 times a day on average while adults laugh 15 times on average. I don't know whether that is true. But as some sage wrote, no wonder Jesus said let the children come to me. Saint Theresa of Avila is reported to have said, "Save me from sour-faced Christians."

With Christ at our center we can be joyful and upbeat for he has won victory on the cross.

Finally, *Give Praise to the Lord*, for the gift of life, of family of friends, of the church and of all our blessings including living in the freedom of the United States. Thankful hearts are content hearts filled with love and hope even in the midst of complexity and challenge.

These are some thoughts we might reflect upon during this season of Lent as committed Catholics and faithful citizens who seek to deepen our personal relationship with Jesus Christ crucified and risen.

SCHEDULE

March

- 3 5:00 Confirmation, SS. Peter & Paul, Dimock and Sacred Heart, Parkston at Parkston
- 4 1:30 Confirmation, Risen Savior, Brandon; St. Peter, Colman; Our Lady of Good Counsel, Elkton; Saints Simon & Jude, Flandreau and St. Nicholas, Tea at Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 6:00 Vespers, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 8 12:00 Diocesan Finance Council Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, Sioux Falls
- 10 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 11 6:00 Vespers, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 13 12:00 Prayer at Planned Parenthood
- 15 10:00 Clergy Reconciliation Service, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 11:00 Chrism Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 12:30 Clergy Luncheon, Parish Hall, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 17 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 18 6:00 Vespers, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 24 4:00 Stational Mass/Vigil Passion Sunday, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 7:00 Gift of Hope Concert, Harrisburg Performing Arts Center, Harrisburg
- 25 11:00 Passion Sunday Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 6:00 Vespers, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 29 7:00 Mass of the Lord's Supper, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 30 3:00 Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 31 8:30 Easter Vigil, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls

April

- 1 7:30 Easter Sunday Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 3 12:00 Pray at Planned Parenthood
- 4 7:00 Confirmation, St. Thomas Aquinas, Madison

Safe environment commitment of the Diocese of Sioux Falls...

...in order to be effective in fulfilling the Church's mission to evangelize and to remain true to Christ's calling for us all, believes its ministries and institutions must be safe places for children and adults. The Diocese, therefore, pledges to preserve safe environments in all of its facilities and catechetical programs. Those clergy, religious, diocesan, parish and school employees, and volunteers who collectively carry out the Church's ministries, remain dedicated to fulfilling its pledge to protect those children entrusted to her for formation in the Catholic faith.

Aware that some who have ministered in the name of the Church have caused harm, the Diocese of Sioux Falls also pledges to assist any who may have been harmed. As a diocese, we desire to help individuals heal from injury that has been caused to them. If you or someone you know has been abused, regardless of who caused the harm, please contact us. We pledge to cooperate with civil authorities in any investigation and we pledge to do our best to help facilitate a process for healing. Whether the need is for counseling, an opportunity to tell your story or something else, as a diocese, we stand ready to assist.

Our chancellor or victim assistance coordinator can be reached toll free at 1-800-700-7867 or 605-334-9861. We will do our best to help.



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I took the confirmation students into the church for some prayer time; they are excellent prayers, and getting better each time. They find a quiet spot, away from the distractions of their peers, and have learned to quiet themselves and be at peace with the Lord for some time.

It is an excellent thing to learn, an excellent discipline to practice and I am honored to be with them each time they enter into prayer.

I, on the other hand, have a class to worry about and have to keep an eye open, so I do not enter into that quiet as easily or deeply as they. They sat in their pews, quietly breathing and being open, and I was sitting in the back, looking around, making sure everything was set for them, so they could have this experience.

Which was when my eyes fell upon the back of the pew in front of me. I was looking down and saw how the varnish on the back of the pew in front of me was worn off. I ran my hand over it, still smooth, but there was a definitive discoloration, just in that one spot, and a few feet away, another one and another after that.

As I looked down the row, the back of the pew was discolored all the way down. My eyes looked to the pews in front of me, row after row of pews and each one had on the back, places where the varnish had been rubbed off.

The pastor in me began to wonder how much it would cost to refinish every one of the 64 pews in our church, and that little reflection in the dim quiet of the church, surrounded by praying sophomores, gave me pause. Yet, it was not the cost factor that ultimately made me realize the folly of my thinking, it was something deeper.

The pastor part of my brain wondered about cost, and worried about upkeep of the parish furnishings, but the most mystical part began to remember why the varnish had worn off in the first place. I stretched out my arms over the place where the wood was slowly beginning to show, and my arms stretched naturally over the spot; arms stretched out in the natural posture

of kneeling prayer.

I began to wonder just how many arms had to stretch over the back of that pew to wear the varnish off like that, and the arms stretched over the other spots that stretched out over the length of our beautiful church. I looked up at the men and women sitting quietly in their home, their parish home, their family's home, and realized what a gift it was for them, for me, to be in this place worn so profoundly by the hundreds, thousands, who had come before.

Young arms, strong arms, arms holding children and infants, arms stretched out in grief and confusion, arms stretched out in supplication and need, arms stretched out in gratitude, arms grown weak through years and the endless burdens of life; they have all rested on the wood of these pews, used them, worn them and made them beautiful.

I know as the pastor, that I should be concerned about the wear, and the future use, of the pews in the church, but as the pastor of this parish, I am overjoyed at the wear and tear on the pews.

It is said we are a disposable society, a people who cast off the old quickly and easily so that we might embrace the new and unique and more interesting. Perhaps we are, and I do it just as easily. There is around us, however, a multitude of things that, if we pause to think, remind us of so much.

You can see only a worn couch, or remember why it is worn; the friends who sat there, the time spent relaxing there, cuddling there, holding children there. The worn carpet is a worn carpet, but also a testament to playtime, sleepless nights, visitors and family life. That is the nature of life and a home.

As I make my way through the church, I notice the things that are worn and a part of me makes a note to make sure they get fixed and updated, but a part of me is grateful for such a home. I am grateful for the walls, thick with the prayers of generations, the faded pews, the cheerios on the floor.

It's not perfect anymore, but it is home.

The Bishop's Bulletin

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Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls

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Lent began on February 14 with Ash Wednesday. The Christian faithful of the diocese received ashes on their foreheads and set out to do penance through prayer and fasting, abstinence and by exercising works of piety and charity. Lent concludes at the end of the month with the arrival of Holy Week. (Photo by Gene Young)

beautifully
made

A WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

you are invited

SPECIAL GUESTS



Lisa
COTTER



Emily
STIMPSON
CHAPMAN



Sarah
KROGER

This first diocesan Women's Conference is your opportunity to come together with other women, be inspired by renowned speakers, and discover who you are as a daughter of our Heavenly Father.

APRIL 14, 2018

SIOUX FALLS CONVENTION CENTER



www.sfcatholic.org/WomensConference



Finding Support & Companionship in Living the Catholic Faith



One of the Immaculate Conception, Watertown, Women's Groups
 (front row) Atlanta Peterson (Hudson, Brexton) Jess Dickes, Jane Dugan, Missy Baumberger, Kristin VanLaecken,
 (2nd row) Beth Raml, Karla Stutzman, Kristy Johnson, Kathy Tesch, Michelle McCormick, Phyllis Jacobson, Bridget Bauman,
 (back row) Kim Peterson, Connie Swarthout

Ten years ago, Missy Baumberger was a young mother, struggling with her faith and yearning to talk with someone.

“At that time I was a young stay-at-home mom questioning the depth of my Catholic faith and who I was in the eyes of the Father,” the Watertown woman said.

She wanted to get to know other women, people who could relate to her concerns and challenges as a young mother. Someone, she said, who could “help answer the questions that were arising in my heart.”

Her search for answers resonated with a few other women in her Immaculate Conception Parish. Soon, four of them decided to get together to talk about their lives and their faith. The meetings became regular events and over time, they reached out to others they thought might benefit from the small group discussions.

Today, their parish has four active women's groups meeting at various times throughout the week.

“Each group consists of women of all ages and stages of life,” Baumberger said, including at times, women who are not Catholic.

Parishes across the Diocese of Sioux Falls have seen similar interest from women seeking opportunities for networking and shared faith development. In some parishes women have formed book clubs, in others they've combined faith discussions with dinners and social outings. Others are drawn to early morning Bible studies and discussions.

All have the same goal: finding support and companionship - a sisterhood - in living their Catholic faith.

Those involved with the Diocese of Sioux Falls' Discipleship and Evangelization offices have taken note of this organic

growth in the desire for community among women across the region. They hope to support, encourage and extend that network at the diocese's first ever Women's Conference.

"Beautifully Made: A Women's Conference," a day-long program of worship, speakers, prayer, socializing and celebrating, will be held April 14 in Sioux Falls.

The program at the Sioux Falls Convention Center will include keynote speakers, breakout sessions, music, worship, food, an adoration chapel and other activities.

"We need this," said Emily Leedom, Director of the Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life for the diocese. "It's an opportunity to be inspired, fed."

Leedom and Dr. Chris Burgwald, Director of Adult Discipleship and Evangelization, are coordinating the conference.

"We live in a world where we simply don't take the time to recollect ourselves. We're hungry for it," Leedom said.

VARIED LIFE EXPERIENCES BUT SHARED GOALS

In Britton, S.D., the drive for community and sisterhood among female parishioners led to the creation of a book club.

The St. Joseph de Britto Parish's "Catholic Book Club" was formed last fall. One of the participants, Audrey Schuller, said the members had enjoyed book and Bible studies at their church in the past, but the person facilitating the gatherings had to shoulder the responsibility of organizing and leading discussions.

They decided that book club members would take turns hosting the gatherings – usually in the member's home.

"We always begin the evening with supper - and maybe a glass of wine - followed by the book discussion" said Schuller.

"We are a 'book club' but a big part of our monthly gathering is our friendship with one another," Schuller said. "Some of us have read the book cover to cover with notes in the margins and some of us have read the back cover - but all are welcome."



St. John's deBritto Book Club in Britton

(back row) Mary (& Becket) Rapkoch, Flo Hart, Linda Deutsch, & Lunette Grimsrud

(front row) Fran Wookey, Sandi Micko, Karen DeVine, Jenni Deutsch, & Grace Wegleitner

Membership has grown to 16 women in this small northeastern South Dakota community.

The diverse group spans all ages and the women bring a variety of life experiences to the gatherings. Friendships have grown as the women share the goal of "wanting to grow in relationship with Jesus, the Church, our family and friends, and each other," Schuller said.

"Each time we meet, I always return home renewed and energized about how blessed we are to be a Catholic. And it has definitely allowed friendships to blossom - they are just a super bunch of ladies."

Baumberger says similar things about her Watertown group's weekly meetings. The interactions support her on her faith journey and the group, despite their varied ages and life experiences, has built a strong communal bond.

"Looking back, I can see now how God has used a number of these women in my life to encourage and challenge me throughout my walk. I feel so blessed that God has called me to walk with such a great group of women," she said.

THE CHURCH AND THE 'FEMININE GENIUS'

The role of women in the Catholic Church has long been a point of discussion, disagreement and complexity. Some have struggled with an all-male clergy and the accompanying concerns that the hierarchy cannot fully recognize or understand women's unique needs and challenges.

St. John Paul II and Pope Francis both addressed the dignity and importance of women and highlighted their roles in the church.

In 1988, as pope, St. John Paul II wrote in his apostolic letter, *Mulieris Dignitatem* (The Dignity and Vocation of Women):

"The Church gives thanks for all the manifestations of the feminine 'genius' which have appeared in the course of history, in the midst of all peoples and nations; she gives thanks for all the charisms which the Holy Spirit distributes to women in the history of the people of God, for all the victories which she owes to their faith, hope and charity. She gives thanks for all the fruits of feminine holiness."

And in his 1995 "Letter to Women:"

"In this vast domain of service, the Church's 2,000-year history, for all its historical conditioning, has truly experienced the 'genius of woman'; from the heart of the Church there have emerged women of the highest caliber who have left an impressive and beneficial mark in history. ... The life of the Church in the third millennium will certainly not be lacking in new and surprising manifestations of 'the feminine genius.'"

More recently, on International Women's Day, March 8, 2015, Pope Francis said:

"I greet all women: all women who seek every day to build a more human and welcoming society. And a fraternal thank-you also to those who bear witness to the Gospel in a thousand ways and work in the Church. For us, this is an occasion to underline the importance and need for their presence in our lives. A world where women are marginalized is a barren world because women not only give life but they also transmit the ability to see beyond, to see beyond themselves. They transmit the ability to see the world with different eyes, to feel things with a more creative, patient and tender heart."

The words of the pontiffs have resonated with women, allowing many to reflect on their roles, challenges and journeys as faithful Catholics.

"Saint Pope John Paul II's exhortations to women that we employ our "feminine genius" to build a culture of life calls us to embrace our unique role as a woman and as such, it is beautiful to us," said Teri Kemmer, of Wentworth, S.D. "It's as women of faith sharing our stories ... (that) we strengthen the body of Christ."

Hartford resident Brittney Heiberger said the "bombardment of the secular world" challenges women, even isolates them in their struggles to live faithful lives.

"Living out our God-given femininity is a privilege, one which the world does its best to deprive us of," she said.

"So many times the Evil One leads us to believe we are the only one struggling to follow Christ. We are easily isolated and it is hard to grow in holiness without support."

Julie Cleary, Sioux Falls, said she and other women see themselves and find inspiration in the "beauty and teachings" of the Church.

"(Women) ... recognize themselves within what is truly the feminine genius. As women, we are not less or greater than men. We are simply different," Cleary said. "We are made to be unique and to complement one another."

"In my opinion, because of women's receptivity, we are able to be more open to receive the love of God in a way that is different from men. We see our weaknesses as something that can be given as a gift to God, where He can enter in and transform them into His divine plan for our salvation and of the whole world," Cleary said.

SKEPTICS, TRUE BELIEVERS AND SEARCHERS INVITED

Conference organizers hope to attract women struggling with their roles in the Church. They say "Beautifully Made" will welcome questioners and embrace skeptics as well as true believers.

"I think they (skeptics) will be brought by the true believers," Leedom said. "Moms and grandmas will invite them, those who desire this abundant life for them."

They hope the conference will offer time for discussion, sharing and questions: Do women see themselves in Church teachings? Do they feel recognized and valued by the Catholic Church?

Heiberger said some women struggle “to truly understand and value the Church’s outlook on women and their role within the church. I know there are a number of women who feel neglected or treated as second class within the Church. My hope is that through this conference and other functions like it, women will come to understand their infinite worth in the eyes of Mother Church.”

Those from diocesan offices want women to see themselves and their daily challenges reflected in the programs and opportunities being presented at the Beautifully Made conference.

“I constantly rely on the expertise of other women in my life to help me figure it out,” said Leedom.

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AS INTERCESSOR

For Catholics, and especially for women, the Blessed Virgin Mary is a prominent role model and loving intercessor. She is admired and respected not only as the mother of God, but as a holy woman, whose faith moved her to accept God’s will and sustained her throughout her life.

Mary’s sufferings and challenges give inspiration to women facing hardships and doubts today and they seek the graces she pours out to women who seek her intercession.

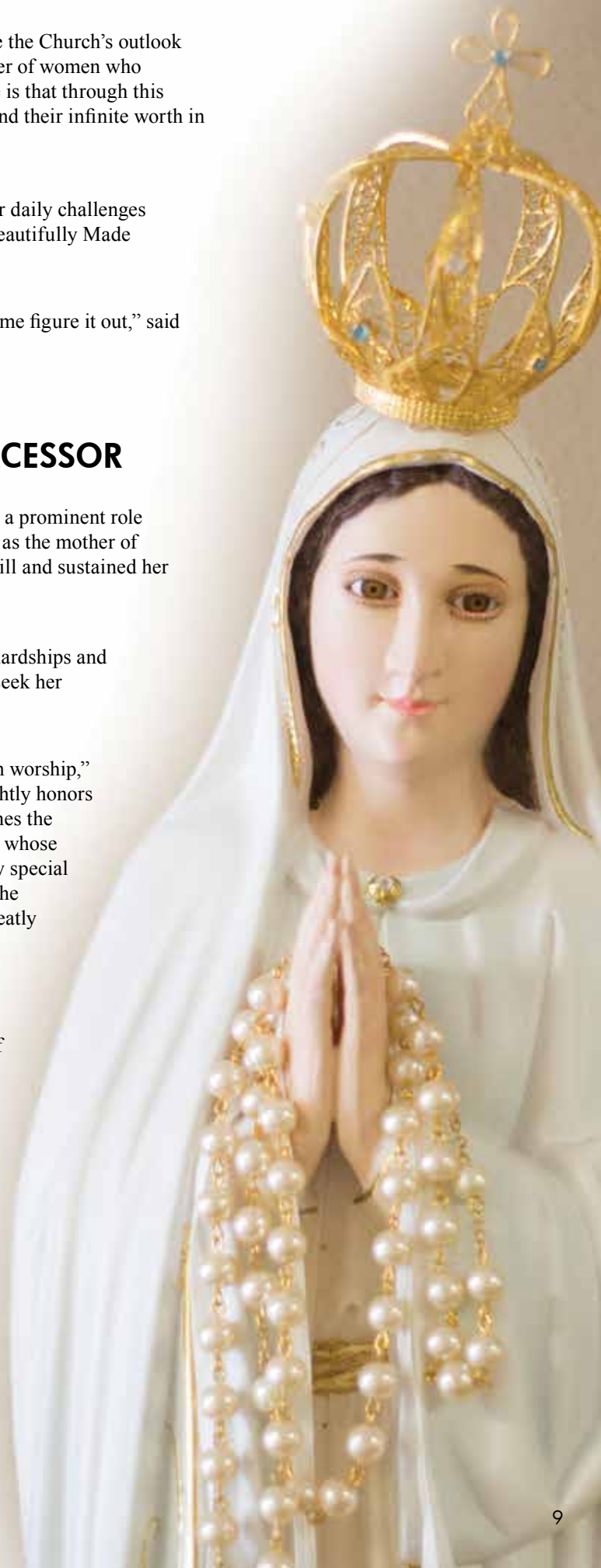
“The Church’s devotion to the Blessed Virgin is intrinsic to Christian worship,” according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church. “The Church rightly honors ‘the Blessed Virgin with special devotion. From the most ancient times the Blessed Virgin has been honored with the title of ‘Mother of God,’ to whose protection the faithful fly in all their dangers and needs. ... This very special devotion ... differs essentially from the adoration which is given to the incarnate Word and equally to the Father and the Holy Spirit, and greatly fosters this adoration.”

Heiberger says she relies on the Blessed Virgin to help guide her decisions. She recalled taking out her rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary recently and reflecting on the Blessed Virgin’s suffering.

“In contemplating on Mary’s often hidden suffering, she leads me closer to Christ. I can’t help but look at Mary’s suffering in light of her femininity. Her heart aches for another, her son. In fact, she so perfectly loves him that her heart is crucified along with his body,” Heiberger said.

She said Mary’s example of the ability to suffer for others is “a mystery and a gift.”

“Women have a unique ability, by their very nature, to follow in Mary’s footsteps. Mary has softened the hardest hearts. We as women can do the same by embracing our feminine genius.”



'THERE IS A DESIRE'

Burgwald said he believes the time is right to host a women's conference, in part because of the support programs and outreach ministries now in place in parishes across the diocese as well as through his office.

Once the faith has been kindled in conference participants, he said, there is a need for follow up.

"We want to make sure that like lighting a match that flames and then burns steady, we want to make sure we can sustain the flame," he said.

He believes church leaders are ready to provide that support.

Leedom says the timing for such a conference is right, simply because women want it.

"Number one, there is a desire. Anytime women desire something, we take it seriously," Leedom said. "(They want) to come together to be inspired. We take that responsibility seriously as a diocese."

In determining programming for the event, Leedom said she and Burgwald, along with a planning committee of women parishioners from around the diocese, looked for ways to make the event, "joyful, life-giving and fruitful."

She pointed out that women in recent years have gone online to form communities and develop relationships with others in similar situations.

"What's captivated me on a national level, through social media, is this desire for community for women. It has been fascinating," she said.

"They're desiring some level of community and finding it on social media. We hope to bring it from the screen into their daily lives."

Leedom said the conference schedule intentionally allows ample time for informal talk and socializing.

During happy hour, for example, women can talk over a glass of wine. "(The schedule) naturally opens the door to those discussions. It's a natural opportunity to build community."

Burgwald said organizers worked to give the conference a special, elegant feel.



Teri and Jeff Kemmer, parishoners of St. Joseph the Workman, Huntimer

"The beauty of the day itself," he said, will speak to women, letting them know they are valued and heard in the diocese.

Women, including some who assisted in planning the conference, have similar goals for this unique conference.

"I do believe that we are all searching for that special something to give us true hope, joy and peace in our lives," said Baumberger.

Kemmer, of St. Joseph the Workman Parish, Huntimer, who served on the planning committee for the conference, adds: "As a woman desiring to experience Christ more deeply and unite my will to the will of God, it will be an opportunity to join other women on their faith journey. We will unite in prayer and celebration ... learn as others share their faith journeys ... how to take the energy forward to our families, friends and parishes."

Cleary, who also served on the planning committee, said, "My hope is that women will come away from the "Beautifully Made" conference knowing that they are loved, and have a deep sense of what it is to be a beloved daughter."

"I also hope that as we gather that we will have a special bond as grandmothers, mothers, wives and single women as women of faith, looking to go deeper. I pray that we will find oneness as sisters in Christ."



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

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

Keynote addresses will be given by:

Lisa Cotter, a speaker on relationships, femininity, and “living life with excellence.” She uses practical insights and humor in her theological message. She and her husband, of Lakewood, CO, are authors of “Dating Detox.” She also is the founder of “Made to Magnify” ministry.

Emily Stimson of Pittsburgh, PA, is a free-lance writer on topics from politics to higher education. She has authored several books and writes with a special focus on the Catholic Church’s teachings on marriage, sexuality and femininity.

Christian songwriter Sarah Kroger of Melbourne, FL, also will perform.



Lisa
COTTER



Emily
STIMPSON
CHAPMAN



Sarah
KROGER

HERE IS THE SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Welcome
9:30 a.m. Keynote
11:15 a.m. Mass with Most Reverend Paul J. Swain
12 p.m. Lunch and Workshops
2 p.m. Keynote
3 p.m. Breakout Session 1
4 p.m. Breakout Session 2
5 p.m. Social Hour, Vendors
6 p.m. Dinner, Keynote
7:30 p.m. Concert and Adoration

Register at
www.sfcatholic.org/WomensConference

Has your life been affected by suicide? There is no subtle way to introduce this topic, but I'm here to tell you, we should talk about it. There is nothing easy about this.

We hear God speak to us in 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed. We do not know how a person feels before committing suicide. All we know is that they are in pain and want that pain to end.

The needless ending of one's own life leaves us with more questions than answers. We may never know why our loved one chose to end his or her life or what we could have done to prevent this act. We may never get the answers we believe we are entitled to. The sudden and unexpected loss of life leaves us feeling flooded with a myriad of emotions including anger, blame, sadness, loneliness, abandonment, and guilt.

We say things to ourselves such as, "I should have seen it coming," or "If only he would have reached out for help." Despite these feelings, survivors of suicide grieve for a long time. It's normal and it's necessary. If you are a survivor of suicide, you may never stop grieving, but you will start healing. It takes time and it takes work. I know that you will never stop missing your loved one. You are not to blame. There was no way for you to know. People who choose to end their life don't talk about it. They don't let you in on it because they don't want you to stop them.

People choose to end their life oftentimes to end their suffering. Maybe they have physical pain that does not respond to medications and life has simply become too difficult to go on. Maybe they have emotional pain. It's the kind of pain that you cannot see, but abounds within. Sometimes, it's both. A person may have a chemical imbalance that makes it difficult for them to live a normal life and they decide that they just cannot go on. Perhaps these people suffer in silence because they have come to believe that they are a burden to others. All of these thoughts

are irrational, but they make perfect sense to a person contemplating suicide at the time.

So, why does this topic end up in our faith community you may be asking yourself? The reasons are really very simple, but probably overlooked. Think for a moment where you go when you need guidance or direction. You may seek out a family member, a therapist or a trusted friend. Maybe you feel as if you have already burdened your friends or family too much and no longer have the energy to tell your story to another therapist. The pain continues. It's kept inside so that nobody else knows. When a person commits suicide, it's important for us to remember that they may not be asking for help because they may be trying to find a way out.

The topic comes to us because there are times when people bring their problems to Christ. Take a good look around you the next time you are at mass. The person sitting next to you could be suffering or maybe the person behind you. Protective factors such as social contact, faith in higher power, having a strong sense of spirituality have been shown to benefit those in need and contribute to preventing suicide. Have you ever added someone's name to a prayer chain? It can and does help. Mental health experts can help as well, but sometimes people are reluctant to go on their own. Taking the first step may involve asking the person that you are concerned about if they are ok. Take all threats seriously. If you are concerned about someone possibly considering suicide, you should ask them, "Are you thinking of killing yourself?" I recommend avoiding other ways of doing this. Be straight forward and honest about your concerns for them. I did not say this was easy, but it is necessary.

For more information on this topic and others, or if your life has been affected by suicide, the professionals at Catholic Family Services can help. Our staff is capable and compassionate. We can offer you counsel, help and hope.

Justin Falon, MS, LPC-MH, LAC, QMHP, is a counselor with Catholic Family Services. He and all counselors can be contacted at 800-700-7867 or sfcatholic.org/cfs.



Justin Falon, MS, LPC-MH, LAC, QMHP

GIFT OF HOPE CONCERT

The Gift of Hope concert, which supports the work of Catholic Family Services will be Saturday, March 24 at 7 p.m. at the Harrisburg High School Performing Arts Center, featuring Matt Maher, Christian music performer.

The concert will provide a memorable evening of music to benefit the work and ministry of Catholic Family Services.

Tickets can be purchased by calling 605-988-3765.

The concert supports Catholic Family Services' Gift of Hope Fund which helps people of all faiths, ages and walks of life who experience grief, despair, abuse, loss, pain of separation, or other counseling needs.

All can receive help, hope and healing from the ministry of Catholic Family Services.

Concert-related expenses are financially sponsored or donated, allowing 100% of all proceeds to go to the Gift of Hope Fund.

Catechumens and candidates welcomed during Rite of Election



Bishop Paul Swain greets one of the candidates for reception into Full Communion with the Catholic Church during the Rite of Election on the first Sunday of Lent at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls. Catechumens and candidates attend the rite as part of their journey toward full conversion and acceptance into the Catholic Church. (Photo by Gene Young)

Local
CHURCH

SOUTH DAKOTA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE FOLLOWING FINAL LEGISLATIVE DAYS

The South Dakota Legislature has a handful of days remaining in the 2018 legislative session.

The South Dakota Catholic Conference and its executive director Chris Motz continue to keep an eye on what lawmakers are doing and the status of legislation.

The mission of the Catholic Conference is to serve as the Church's institutional ambassador to the public square, educating and keeping the bishops of South Dakota informed on lawmaking, administrative rule-making, and judicial action at the state and federal level.

People of the diocese can stay current on what is happening at the State Capitol in Pierre



and how it may affect them or the diocese by visiting the South Dakota Catholic Conference website at www.sdcatholicconference.org.

People of the diocese can also utilize the website to sign up for e-mail alerts or to provide feedback to Motz.

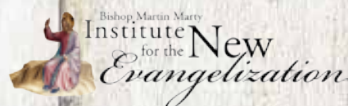


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Diocesan schools celebrate Catholic education



Part of the congregation in attendance at All City Catholic School Mass at Augustana University, Sioux Falls at the conclusion of Catholic Schools Week 2018. The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Paul J. Swain. (Photo by Tim Stanek)



Students from Sacred Heart School, Yankton, are pictured with the results of a research project where they learned about saints and turned what they learned into a rosary. Students presented the rosary to the principal as a gift to the school for Catholic Schools Week. (Photo courtesy, Sacred Heart School, Yankton.)

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during this year's Catholic Schools Week

Local
CHURCH



At St. Joseph School, Pierre, Grandparents Day during Catholic Schools week involved celebration of an All School Mass followed by muffins and a beverage that all students and grandparents enjoyed. After breakfast, grandparents visited the classrooms to observe the start of the school day. (Photo courtesy, St. Joseph School, Pierre)



St. Agnes School, Vermillion, students on pajama day with University of South Dakota men's basketball coach, Craig Smith and two basketball players, Matt Mooney and Trey Birch-Manning. They came to talk about the Gospel virtue of faith and how important it is to them on and off the court. (Photo courtesy, St. Agnes School, Vermillion)

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
 March 15-18, 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.

March 13: "The Passion of God & Passion of Man: Why Suffering, Why Me?"
 - with Msgr. Richard Mahowald

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

March 2-4: Inner Healing Retreat
 - with Jane Barz and Mike Snyder

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

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Local CHURCH

Catholic Family Services is gearing up for a children's grief camp in June.

"Camp Sydney" will be held at Broom Tree Retreat and Conference Center June 16-17.

The two day camp for children, youth and their families is designed to be an educational and experiential camp for coping with the death of a loved one.

"It is important for children to recognize and express feelings of grief. Children need a continued sense of hope and healing for the future as they experience behavioral changes during their period of grieving," said Dr. Marcie Moran, director, Catholic Family Services.

"There is no time limit to grieving, so whether it's been two months or ten years since the loss of a loved one, all are welcome to join in learning how to adjust and cope with the

Catholic Family Services readies Camp Sydney for June

loss," said Dr. Moran.

In age related groups, the children will have an opportunity to share their grief experiences and learn that they are not alone in their feelings.

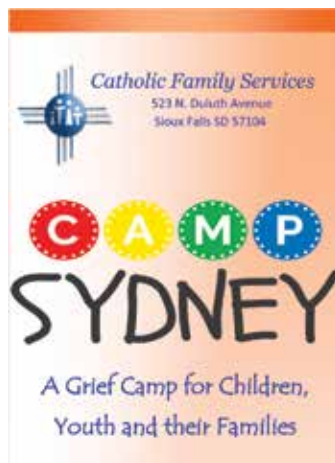
Throughout the weekend, children and youth will learn about topics related to the grieving process.

Catholic Family Services is seeking out potential participants to attend the camp and volunteers to work with the camp in various capacities.

CFS will be reaching out to people that may be interested in volunteering and serving those who attend the camp.

Camp Sydney will begin on Saturday June 16 at 10 a.m. and run through Sunday at 11 a.m. for young people 7 years of age through 17 and their families.

There are numerous volunteer positions available.



All volunteers will need to complete safe environment training, a background check and need to attend one of three trainings offered.

Those interested in signing up for the camp as a participant or a volunteer can call 1-800-700-7867 or 605-988-3775 or can e-mail cfs@sfcatholic.org.

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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.sacredheartaberneden.net, or at the Parish Office.

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

REDEEMED 2018

Saturday, April 7, 2018 | Doors open at 8:00 a.m.
Scheels Arena and Shanley High School (children's program)

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\$25 - Adults | \$15 - Ages 5-17

\$100 - Family maximum with early registration

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PRESENTATION SISTERS HOST LENTEN RETREAT



The Presentation Sisters' hosted a Lenten retreat, "Servant's Heart of Justice and Joy", recently at St. Mary Parish, Sioux Falls. Gaye Lindfors was the featured speaker for the retreat. Pictured above are (left to right): Sister Suzanne Cotter, Sister Jan Mengenhauser, retreat speaker Gaye Lindfors and Jan Lenz enjoying a moment together following the retreat. (Photo courtesy, Barb Grosz, Presentation Sisters)

MMC AND BENEDICTINE SISTERS HOST SPEAKER



Mount Marty College, Yankton, recently hosted its Benedictine Institute. Rev. John McNerney spoke on "The Wealth of Persons: Forgotten Principles of Business & Social Teaching." Pictured is Sister Marietta Kerkvliet giving a tour to Rev. McNerney. (Photo courtesy, Raelynn Coldwell, Sacred Heart Monastery, Yankton)

Bishop Dudley Hospitality House receives donations from Knights of Columbus, grocer and hotelier



The Bishop Dudley Hospitality House, Sioux Falls, recently received significant donations aimed at the house's ongoing needs. Pictured (above, left to right): Jim Coburn, Knights of Columbus Holy Spirit Council #1578; Dustin Lucht, Fareway Stores; Jay Cudzillo, Knights of Columbus Holy Spirit Council #1578; Jamie Eisenberg, Fareway Stores; Jake Jeppeson, Fareway Stores; Chad Campbell, executive director, Bishop Dudley Hospitality House; Jeff Donovan, Knights of Columbus Holy Spirit Council #1578 and Dan Johnson, Knights of Columbus Holy Spirit Council #1578 after donating laundry detergent that will meet the house's needs for the next year.

As part of the donation, The Knights also donated a check for \$2,000 to the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House.

Pictured (above, right): Members of the Knights of Columbus Holy Spirit Council #1578, Sioux Falls off load the laundry detergent that was donated. The Knights of Columbus also donated personal shampoos and other personal products from I.S.I., an area hotelier. (Photos by Gene Young)

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Parishes embrace Lent with offerings including Friday fish fry meals

Local
CHURCH



Lent brings an abundance of opportunities for prayer, fasting and almsgiving. But it also brings many parishes to offer a weekly fish fry or other meals on Fridays through the penitential season often tied to Stations of the Cross or other prayer opportunities. Pictured (above, left): St. Joseph Parish, Grenville hosts a fish fry with raffles and a 50/50 drawing every Friday of Lent. Father Brian Simon, pastor, St. Joseph Parish, shared that the fish fry is a big draw not only for the parish and parishioners but for the entire region. (Photo courtesy, Father Brian Simon, St. Joseph Parish, Grenville)

Pictured (above, right): St. Lambert Parish, Sioux Falls, depends upon the Knights of Columbus to coordinate their fish fry which is offered every other week through Lent. (Photo by Gene Young)

SUNDAY TV MASS

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Committed in CHRIST



COLMAN – Dick and Darlene Heinricy will celebrate their 40th anniversary on Mar. 6. They have 5 children (1 deceased), 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Peter Parish.



DELL RAPIDS – Terry and Joyce Pfannenstien will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Mar. 9. They have 4 children, 11 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



DELL RAPIDS – Clarence and Phyllis Fiegen celebrated their 60th anniversary on Feb. 15. They have 11 children, 36 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



ESTELLINE – Don and Susan Zafft will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Mar. 11. They have 3 children (1 deceased), 7 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Francis de Sales Parish.



MILLER – Pat and Linda Beaner will celebrate their 40th anniversary on Mar. 11. They have 2 children and are members of St. Ann Parish.



PLATTE – Paul and Ellen Samuelson celebrated their 65th anniversary on Feb. 10. They have 5 children, 15 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Peter Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Jerry and Dottie Bream will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Mar. 30. They have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Emil and Donna Berard will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Mar. 1. They have 2 children, 2 grandchildren and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



WATERTOWN – Pat and Mary Reihe will celebrate their 40th anniversary on Mar. 4. They have 5 children, 9 grandchildren and are members of Holy Name Parish.



WESSINGTON SPRINGS – Dick and Janet Kolousek will celebrate their 45th anniversary on Mar. 3. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Joseph Parish.

Anniversary submissions

Send a color photo, your anniversary news and a self-addressed, stamped envelope by March 15 for inclusion in the April 2018 edition to:
The Bishop's Bulletin
523 North Duluth Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
or e-mail to:
gyoung@sfcatholic.org.

BISHOP HOCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Diocese awards a \$1,000 scholarship in each of the seven deaneries, to enable a student to attend either Mount Marty College in Yankton or Presentation College in Aberdeen.

The scholarships are available to new students, students already in college and non-traditional students interested in attending or already attending Mount Marty and Presentation Colleges.

To obtain an application, contact your pastor, the Financial Aid Office at Mount Marty College or Presentation College. Applications are due March 15. Applications must be returned to the Office of Catholic Schools, 523 North Duluth Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714.

Advent Baby Shower gets a boost in sorting items from diocesan staff

The Advent Baby Shower is a diocesan parish-friendly ministry provided to help collect and provide donated resources to mothers and families in need all across the diocese through parishes and other outreach ministries. The Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life organizes the project each year.

Brianna Wingen (on the left) and Michelle Sletten (on the right) and other members of the diocesan staff recently spent time helping sort the items that have been received. Organizing the clothes, diapers, wipes and other baby-essentials is needed so they can be delivered to where they are needed most in the diocese. (Photo by Tim Stanek)



Sister Donata Daml

Sister Donata Daml, a Sister of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, died January 27, at Avera St. Luke Hospital, Aberdeen. She was 81.

The Mass of Christian Burial was Feb. 1 in Blessed Sacrament Chapel at Presentation Convent, Aberdeen. Burial followed at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery, Aberdeen.

Donna Mae Daml was born April 28, 1936 in St. Cloud, MN to Helen (Blommer) and Peter E. Daml.

She graduated from Anoka High School in 1954. Donna entered Presentation Convent September 5, 1954. She received her religious name of Sister Donata and professed vows on August 19, 1957.

Sister Donata earned an Associate Degree from Presentation College, plus a Bachelor of Science in Education (1970) and Master's Degree in Guidance & Counseling (1990) from Northern State College.

She taught third through eighth grades in Dell Rapids, Huron, Humboldt, Mitchell, Aberdeen, Milbank and Watertown as well as Mound and Anoka, MN for nearly three decades, before working as a recruiter at Presentation College, Aberdeen.



Sister Donata Daml, PBVM

In 1991 Sister Donata felt called to minister to the Native American students at Presentation College Lakota Campus, Eagle Butte and offered counseling services at the Sacred Heart Center.

Sister Donata especially treasured her time on the Cheyenne River Reservation. She ministered there until 2012 and returned to prayer and volunteer ministry at the Presentation Convent.

Sister Donata is survived by her community family of Presentation Sisters; her brother William (Helen) Yuma AZ, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Edward, and sisters Roberta "Ruby" Cimaglia and Mary Ann Hannig.

Committed in
CHRIST

DISC Mission Grant applications available

The DISC Mission grant application forms for 2018 are now available. Any mission or Catholic organization in the national or international community may benefit from these grants. Past grants have ranged from \$250-\$1,000.

The grant application must be submitted through a DISC member diocese. In the case of the Diocese of Sioux Falls, that DISC member is Dawn Wolf.

The completed application with the description of the program or ministry for consideration must be submitted to the awards committee by April 30. You can find the application at www.sfcatholic.org, and return the form by April 30, to Dawn Wolf, Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls, dwolf@sfcatholic.org.

Some of the past years recipients of these funds include the Presentation Sisters Kaoma Zambia Africa and their fishpond project, meat grinder for fish food, the Presentation Sisters – Nagle Center, Kaoma Zambia, Africa to provide funding for a manual knitting machine and St. Francis House, Sioux Falls, providing baby formula, diapers for displaced families.

Cathedral Arts Series ahead with founder's concert

The Cathedral Choir will be featured as the performers for the next Sacred Arts Series Concert May 2 at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls.

The "Founder's Concert" will be held Wednesday 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.

Over a century ago, in the spring of 1916, the church's cornerstone was laid. Today the Cathedral is more beautiful than ever, thanks to the architectural and artistic restoration completed in 2011.

This year the Cathedral Choir will perform two major works with orchestra and guest soloists: the Coronation Mass of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Felix Mendelssohn's setting of Psalm 42.

Tickets available at www.sfcatholic.org/SAS or at the door the night of the performance.

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

"Radiant as the Sun: The music of Monteverdi, Schütz, and Purcell" will be performed Tuesday, May 15 at 7 p.m.



The Cathedral Choir.

Traditional Latin Mass celebrated Sundays in Salem

The Traditional Latin Mass, also known as "The Extraordinary Form" is offered every Sunday at noon and on each Holy Day of Obligation at 7 p.m. at St. Mary Catholic Church, 240 W. Vermont Avenue, Salem, SD 57058. You can find out more by calling 605-425-2600 or going on line at www.salemcatholic.org. All are welcome to attend.



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Catholics urged to affirm beauty, “liberating truth” of “*Humanae Vitae*”

Washington, D.C. (CNS) - The “liberating truth” of Blessed Paul VI’s encyclical “*Humanae Vitae*” is as relevant today 50 years after its promulgation, and maybe even more so, said Denver Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila in his new pastoral, “The Splendor of Love.” “The 50th anniversary of ‘*Humanae Vitae*’ is an occasion to celebrate the gift of Blessed Paul VI’s teaching and an opportunity to renew our commitment to sharing this liberating truth with a world that is increasingly confused about sexuality,” Archbishop Aquila wrote. He said he wrote the pastoral “to affirm the great beauty of the church’s consistent teaching through the centuries on married love, a love that is so desperately needed today.” “*Humanae Vitae*” (“Of Human Life”) reaffirmed the church’s teaching against the use of artificial birth control and contraceptive sterilization. Promulgated July 25, 1968, the encyclical was Blessed Paul’s last. “He prophetically defended the integrity of married love and warned us against the danger of reducing sexuality to a source of pleasure alone,” Archbishop Aquila wrote.

Chaldean archbishop: Time to be “honest” in dialogue with Muslims

Washington, D.C. (CNS) - If Christians in the Middle East are going to be “honest” with their Muslim dialogue partners, said Chaldean Archbishop Bashar Warda of Irbil, Iraq, Muslims will have to acknowledge that the persecution of Christians in the region did not start with the Islamic State’s rise to power in 2014. “We experienced this not for the last four years, but 1,400 years,” Archbishop Warda said during a speech at Georgetown University in Washington, sponsored by the Religious Freedom Research Project of the university’s Berkley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affairs. Christians are partly to blame, too, in the dialogue, according to Archbishop Warda. “We did not push back against the recurring periods of terrorism that inflicted cruel pain upon our ancestors,” he said. He added that Christianity also needs to return to a “pre-Constantine vision” of the church, recalling Jesus’ words shortly before his crucifixion: “My kingdom is not of this world.”

Fasting during Lent includes sharing, treating others kindly, pope says

Vatican City (CNS) - Loudly boasting or complaining about fasting during Lent and treating others unkindly is not what God wants, Pope Francis said. “Does my fasting end up helping others? If it doesn’t, it’s fake, it’s contradictory and it leads to the path of a double life. I pretend to be Christian -- righteous like the Pharisees, the Sadducees -- but inside I am not,” he said in his homily at morning Mass in the Domus Sanctae Marthae. The pope preached on the day’s first reading, taken from the prophet Isaiah, which condemned the false ways the faithful were fasting on a day of penance and the ways that are “acceptable to the Lord.” Catholics who fast and boast aloud about their penitential acts are engaged in deception and are “rigging” true virtue, he said. The only cover up people should commit is covering their face with a genuine smile so others are unaware they are fasting and doing penance, he said.

Head of Catholic physicians group warns of threats to conscientious objection

Vatican City (CNS) - No physician should be forced to choose between violating his or her conscience and facing professional sanctions when defending human life, said the president of the World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations. Dr. John Lee, the federation president, wrote a letter to the World Medical Association protesting proposed changes in the WMA’s ethical policy statements on abortion and on euthanasia. The changes apparently will be discussed at the WMA council meeting in Latvia in April. The Vatican newspaper, *L’Osservatore Romano*, reported on Lee’s letter on its front page under the headline, “Conscientious objection in danger.” The two proposals, Lee said, would “facilitate worldwide abortion and euthanasia by curtailing doctors’ conscientious objection” by using “deceptive language, pressure on doctors by national regulatory bodies and legal force to weaken national laws protecting human life.”

Acknowledge sin, but look for signs of God at work, pope tells priests

Rome (CNS) - While it is true that the world is full of sin and sinful behavior, priests must learn to scrutinize the “signs of the times” for new trends and attitudes that are good and healthy and holy, Pope Francis told pastors from the Diocese of Rome. While there is “moral conduct that we aren’t used to seeing,” such as the normalization of living together before marriage, there also is a greater awareness of human rights, a push for tolerance and equality and appreciation for the values of peace and solidarity,” he said. “We should not be frightened of the difficulties, but discern the signs of the times, the things that come from the Spirit” and then “help with the others,” he said, according to *RomaSette*, the diocesan newspaper. As is customary on the day after Ash Wednesday, Pope Francis spent the morning with the pastors in the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the Rome cathedral. The session began with a penitential liturgy and with the pope spending almost an hour hearing confessions.

No youths should feel excluded from pre-synod meeting, cardinal says

Vatican City (CNS) - As the Catholic Church prepares to welcome youths from around the world to a preparatory meeting for the Synod of Bishops on youth, Cardinal Lorenzo Baldisseri said the church is using every means of communication available to listen to young people from all walks of life. Speaking to journalists, Cardinal Baldisseri, the general secretary of the Synod of Bishops, said social networks such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter will allow young people to follow and interact “with their peers in Rome” attending the March 19-24 pre-synod meeting. “In short, even through the new technologies of communication, the pre-synod meeting wants to broaden as much as possible the audience of young people involved so that no one should feel excluded,” Cardinal Baldisseri said. Announcing the pre-synod meeting last October, Pope Francis said he hoped Christian and non-Christian young people from around the world would attend so the church could listen to the hopes and concerns of all young men and women. “Through this journey, the church wants to listen to the voices, the sensibilities, the faith as well as the doubts and criticisms of young people. We must listen to young people,” Pope Francis had said.

Diocesan EVENTS

Parish Dinners/Socials

Mar. 2, 9, 16, 23/St. Joseph Parish, Grenville fish fry, raffles and 50/50 drawing; 5-7:30 p.m. each Friday; adults: \$10; children (ages 6-11): \$5; children 5 and under: free.

Mar. 2 and 16/St. Lambert Parish, Sioux Falls fish fry; 5-7 p.m. each evening; free will offering.

Mar. 4/St. Peter Parish, Colman, will host a pancake breakfast at the St. Peter Parish Hall; serving will be from 9-11 a.m.; a free offering with proceeds going to the St. Peter Parish youth group.

Mar. 4/Maher Council 1079 of the Knights of Columbus, Mitchell, 50th annual sausage supper; held at the John Paul II School gym, 1510 W. Elm Ave; serving 3-6:30 p.m.; tickets: adults are \$9; children (12 and under) are \$4.

Mar. 7/Empty Bowls will be held in the O'Gorman High School cafeteria from 5-7 p.m.; costs is \$5 for meal only; \$20 for families of 4 or more and \$15 for pottery bowl and meal; proceeds will benefit local agencies that feed the poor.

Mar. 11/Church of the Epiphany will host its 55th annual sausage supper; serving will be from 3-7 p.m.

Mar. 16/St. George Parish Fish Fry will be Friday from 5-7:30 p.m. at the parish center 408 S. Western Ave., Hartford; free will offering will be accepted.

Mar. 18/St. Patrick Parish, Montrose will hosts its ham dinner with serving from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Mar. 18/St. Thomas Catholic Church, Roscoe, is serving a swiss steak meal with all the trimmings including pie; there will be a raffle with a \$10,000 cash grand prize; the event will be held at the American Legion, Roscoe; there will be pinochle, kids' games, bingo and a silent auction.

Mar. 25/St. Lambert Parish, 16th and Bahnson, Sioux Falls, turkey dinner with serving from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; takeouts will be available; cost: adult: \$9; children ages 5-12: \$6; children 4 and under: free; family (immediate): \$40; advance tickets available March 17 and 18 and in the parish office or call 605-336-8808 for more information.

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 on sale after all Masses Mar. 17, 18, 24, 25 and Apr. 7 following the 4 p.m. Mass only; no Easter sales.

Adult education offered at S.F. parish

Tuesday, Mar. 6 - Adult education at Holy Spirit Parish, Sioux Falls, will be on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Room. The presenter is Deacon Bill Radio, Cathedral of Saint Joseph Parish, Sioux Falls. His presentation will be "Praying - Lord, Teach Me To Pray." An opportunity for questions and answers will follow.

Eden parish pastor offering interdenominational Bible study

Mar. 7, 14, 21 and 28 - Father Brian Simon, pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Eden, and St. Joseph Parish, Grenville, is leading interdenominational Bible study on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. at the Roslyn Community Christian Church; the study is focusing on the book of Revelation; the study is open to all.

Koinonia being offered in Milbank

Mar. 9-11 - Koinonia is being offered March 9-11 at Milbank; contact Kathy at 605-467-1085 to register or for more information.

Loving servant prayer group meeting in Henry

Mar. 9-10 - Loving servants prayer group will meet at St. Henry Church on Friday and Saturday; are you wanting to know the Holy Spirit or looking for a deeper relationship with Him? This event explores the Wild-geese series with Father Dave Pivonka; opportunity for Mass and confession; free will offering includes meal; to register contact Mavis Kemnitz at 605-880-5996 or mavis.kemnitz@gmail.com.

Life in the Spirit retreat set for Sioux Falls

Mar. 9-10 - A Life in Spirit retreat will be held at St. Lambert Parish, Sioux Falls, running Friday from 7-9 p.m. and continuing Saturday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; registration requested for lunch; free will offering appreciated; RSVP to Julie via text 605-521-5782 or call Joan 605-332-9009.

Koinonia set for Sioux Falls

Mar. 16-18 - Koinonia is a weekend retreat designed to help you develop your relationship with God and others; it is built around the death and resurrection of Jesus; Koinonia strives to impart to each participant the full meaning of church, as the people of God; Koinonia #47 is being held March 16-18 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Sioux Falls; call Cindy at 605-988-3763 for more information or to register.

Retrouvaille being offered in the diocese

Mar. 16-18 - If you are aware of any couples who may be struggling, the Retrouvaille program may be able to help. The next retreat is March 16-18 at Abbey of the Hills Inn and Retreat Center near Marvin. Register at www.retrouvaille.org.

Marian Apostolate hosting presentation

Sunday, Mar. 18 - Holy Spirit Parish and the Office of the Marian Apostolate are sponsoring, "Conversion of Heart and Formation of Conscience," a presentation by Msgr. Charles Mangan on Sunday at 3:30 p.m. in Holy Spirit Parish Hall, Sioux Falls; all are invited.

Brandon parish hosting Lenten cantata

Mar. 19 and 25 - Risen Savior Parish, Brandon will present a Lenten cantata, "He Rescues the Likes of Me: A Blessed Journey" on Monday at 7 p.m. at Bethany Meadows, Brandon and on then on Sunday at 3 p.m. at Risen Savior Church and at 7 p.m. at St. Rose of Lima Parish, Garretson; all performances are free and open to the public.

Mother of God Monastery

Mar. 10/Images of Jesus in Scripture Saturday 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Harmony Hill Hall; there are many Biblical images of Jesus, such as: The Good Shepherd, True Vine, True King, Bread of Life, etc.; during this presentation the group will explore the Biblical background to find a richer meaning and understanding of what Jesus was really saying about Himself; suggested donation, including lunch is \$30; contact Sister Emily to register at 605-886-4181 Ext. 1 or register online at watertownbenedictines.org.

Catholic Family Services

Mar. 6 and Apr. 3/Catholic Family Services invites you to join our Living with Chronic Illness group. The group meets at Catholic Family Services 523 N. Duluth Ave. Sioux Falls. For details please call Catholic Family Services, 605-988-3775.

Mar. 26/Surviving Divorce Program spring session begins Monday in Sioux Falls; sessions are held Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; cost of \$45 per person includes a "Personal Survival Guide", refreshments and all materials for six weeks; for information or to register contact Catholic Family Services, 605-988-3775 cfs@sfcatholic.org; scholarships are available.

Apr. 5-26/Children's grief program directed by Mary Weber runs Thursdays from 5:30-7 p.m. at Catholic Family Services, 523 N Duluth Ave, Sioux Falls; to register or for more information contact Catholic Family Services 605-988-3775.

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THE BISHOP'S
BULLETIN
Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls

SAVE THE DATE! 2018 BISHOP'S CHARITY EVENTS



March
24

"Gift of Hope Concert"

Feat. Matt Maher

Benefiting Catholic Family Services

HHS Performing Arts Center - Harrisburg



June
4&11

"Bishop's Charity Fishing Tournament"

Benefiting Seminarian Education

Big Stone City & Pierre



August
25

"Legacy: A Beer and Wine Experience"

Benefiting Broom Tree Retreat & Conference Center

Ramkota Exhibit Hall - Sioux Falls



August
27

"Bishop's Cup"

Benefiting Broom Tree Retreat & Conference Center

Minnehaha Country Club & The Country Club of Sioux Falls -
Sioux Falls



September
24-25

"Bishop's Charity Hunt"

Benefiting Newman Catholic Campus Ministries

Horseshoe "K" Ranch - Kimball



December
13-16

"Christmas at the Cathedral"

*Benefiting Bishop Dudley Hospitality House
& Cathedral Endowments*

Cathedral of Saint Joseph - Sioux Falls



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