Monthly publication for the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls
August 2021

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

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brought me back home

New opportunities for holiness coming to diocese

I am pleased to announce two wonderful opportunities for our diocese to grow in missionary discipleship and holiness.

First, those involved with the formation of seminarians of our diocese have been researching and proposing ways we can assist men in discernment and in discernment and formation for priesthood. This new initiative is being developed because of the Vatican's request for dioceses to provide a period of time of formation called the Propaedeutic Stage, which includes intellectual, but above all, human and spiritual formation.

This stage of formation is envisioned to occur prior to a man going to the seminary so he can flourish when he does go, and it provides time for those responsible for recommending a man for the seminary to get to better know a man's readiness and sense of his call to the priesthood.

The types of formation the Church envisions during the Propaedeutic Stage include such things as helping a man develop his prayer life, gain a foundational knowledge of Scripture and the Catechism, and provide for individualized opportunities of personal human growth. This allows them to be able to receive seminary formation more freely, fruitfully and with a clearer and more developed understanding and response to God's vocational call.

Second, as you may recall, a few months after I was ordained bishop of our diocese, I received a spiritual inspiration in prayer to establish our diocesan vision of *Lifelong Catholic Missionary Discipleship Through God's Love*. Since then, I have been inviting people throughout the diocese to discern ways they could enhance living and sharing this vision in their parishes, schools and other Catholic institutions. Several people recommended to me that I should explore inviting additional religious communities to serve in our diocese, especially those who have particular gifts and charisms to assist in Catholic missionary evangelization.

After prayer, outreach and discernment, I invited a few communities to consider serving in our diocese, and God has blessed us by sending us members of the religious community of Pro Ecclesia Sancta (PES), whose name means "for the holiness of the Church." Their founder felt called to form a community of religious men and women to help people grow in holiness who live and work in the world.

In addition to the priests sent to serve the parishes of Holy Spirit and Holy Family in Mitchell, they also graciously offered to send two religious sisters, at least one more priest, and some men in discernment to help with some of our diocesan Office of Discipleship and Evangelization initiatives to pray for and help people in our diocese to grow in holiness.

They will also be assisting staff of Bishop O'Gorman Junior High and High Schools with the spiritual formation of students, families and staff. I will discern with PES leaders, Discipleship and Evangelization Office and Bishop O'Gorman leaders throughout the year to determine in future years how and where PES may be able to continue to help serve in our diocese.

So, I ask for your prayers and a warm welcome for our brothers and sisters from the Pro Ecclesia Sancta religious community as they can help us continue to grow in holiness, spiritually and humanly, for full flourishing in our journey to heaven together by living our Catholic faith dynamically as *Lifelong Catholic Missionary Disciples Through God's Love*.

In the Love of the Lord,

+Bishop DeGrood

BISHOP'S SCHEDULE

August

1 1:30 Anniversary Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph
7 4:30 Mass at St. Dominic, Canton
8 8:30 Installation of Fr. Cesar Valencia and Fr. Yamato Icochea, PES, at Holy Family, Mitchell
11:00 Installation of Fr. Cesar Valencia and Fr. Yamato Icochea, PES, at Holy Spirit, Mitchell
12:00 Parish festival and welcome event for Pro Ecclesia Sancta priests, Holy Spirit, Mitchell
8-11 Diocesan Seminarian Retreat, Broom Tree Retreat Center
11 10:30 Mass for the Rite of Candidacy for Nicholas Ahrens and Alexander Leschisin
14 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
5:00 Taste the Goodness event, Downtown Sioux Falls
15 1:30 Anniversary Mass, St. Mary, Aberdeen
18 8:00 Mass with Bishop O'Gorman Catholic School teachers
20-22 Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jeruselem Northern Lieutenancy annual meeting, Sioux Falls
23 Bishop's Cup Golf Tournament, Sioux Falls
26 12:00 Diocesan Finance Council meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center
26-28 Region VIII Bishop's Meeting, Archdiocese of Minneapolis
28 4:00 Mass to kickoff Dakota Bowl, Bishop O'Gorman High School Performing Arts Center

September

4 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
5 9:00 State Fair Mass, Women's Building, SD State Fair Grounds, Huron
5-7 Labor Day priest gathering at The Abbey of the Hills

*Broadcast on Keloland TV or live stream via sfcatholic.org

sfcatholic.org/bishopsbulletin

Officials

Since publication of the July Bishop's Bulletin, the Most Reverend Donald E. DeGrood has:

after having received an attestation of his good standing with his religious community and the consent of his religious superior, appointed **Reverend Thi Pham, SCJ**, a member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart, as parochial vicar in the parishes of Sacred Heart and Saint Benedict,Yankton; and

after having received an attestation of his good standing with his religious community, granted the full pagella of priestly faculties to **Reverend Gregory Schill, SCJ**, a member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart, with the understanding that he would serve as chaplain and a spiritual director to staff members at St. Joseph Indian School, Chamberlain. St. Joseph Indian School is a ministry owned and operated by the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew K. Althoff
Chancellor

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

...in order to be effective in fulfilling her mission to evangelize and to remain true to Christ's calling for us all, the Church's ministries and institutions must be safe places for both 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 committed to fulfilling this solemn 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 promise to cooperate with civil authorities in any investigation. We promise 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 are 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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God's unconditional love is the foundation of discipleship

By Laurie Stiegelmeier

By now many of us know Bishop DeGrood's vision for the Diocese of Sioux Falls by heart: *Lifelong Catholic Missionary Discipleship Through God's Love*. Each word in this statement carries great meaning but "through God's love" is both the foundation and the capstone of the entire message.

The Merriam Webster Dictionary defines foundation as a basis upon which something stands or is supported, an underlying base, or a body or ground upon which something is built up or overlaid. Traditionally, a capstone was placed at the top of a pyramid or building to signify completion and to protect the walls below. Capstones were often considered the most important part of the building; they were elaborately decorated to signify the crowning of the achievement. One definition of capstone is "the high point, the crowning achievement."

God's love is the base upon which our lives are built and supported, the protection from storms and erosion, and the crowning achievement.

"God is pursuing us," Father Scott Traynor, vicar for Lay and Clergy Formation and executive director of Broom Tree Retreat Center, says, pointing to the universal call to prayer as foundational. In paragraph 2567 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, we read "the living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. In prayer, the faithful God's initiative of love always comes first; our own first step is always a response."

Comparing God's initiative of love and our response to a parent lifting their child in a game of airplane, Father Traynor says when the parent stops, the first words from the child's mouth are "Do it again!"

"The attention, the play, is the child experiencing being loved. The first way we come to know God's love is through the love of our parents," he says. "'I want more of it' is our response to God's love, or to the kindness, goodness or service shown to us that awakens a desire for more that can only be given by God."

Discipleship, the call to follow Jesus Christ, is built on God's initiative of love.

"Missionary discipleship is the process by which I encounter Jesus and experience his love for me. That leads me to make a decision to follow him and, motivated by his love, to help others to encounter, experience and choose to follow him," Father Traynor says.

However, he cautions that if our motive is not because of God's love, our efforts won't be fruitful.

"We need to be motivated by God's love for the person or persons as unrepeatable images of God, loved unconditionally by him," he says.

Trust is key to discipleship

Father Traynor says discipleship begins with trust. Trust leads to curiosity which leads to openness, then to seeking, to encountering, and to deciding to follow Jesus.

"A maturing relationship is fueled by an ever-deeper encounter with Christ," he says. "To build a culture of missionary discipleship, we need to provide repeated ways for people to encounter God."

To do this, we need to get to know and

understand people so we can tailor our discipleship to their needs, out of love for them. "Love seeks what is best for the beloved," Father Traynor reminds us.

"For example, if a person has a lack of trust in God, religion or the Church, the most fruitful thing we can do is to be a loving human being to them—to show them goodness and kindness as a disciple of Christ," Father Traynor says. "This may lead to curiosity, 'Why are you being so kind to me?' Openness and the other stages of growth leading to the decision to follow Christ may follow. We need to understand where a person is in their relationship with God in order to effectively help them take the next step closer to Christ and the Church."

The necessary experience, Father Traynor says, is a lived experience of God's love. "We need to long for it, pray for a whole new experience of God's love. We need to recognize that this is what I'm made for. Every human being has a need for a deeper experience of God's love which is freely given and freely received. We don't need to earn it; God's love is true love, unconditional and freely given—even though we may have experienced a contrary lesson from people in our lives. Seek, knock, and ask for it. Pray for others to receive God's love; it is everyone's central need."

St. Paul understood this. In Ephesians 3:14-19, his prayer is for everyone to deeply feel the love of God for them: "For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that he may grant you in accord with the riches of his glory to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner self, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; *that you, rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God*."

> "A maturing relationship is fueled by an ever-deeper encounter with Christ. To build a culture of missionary discipleship, we need to provide repeated ways for people to encounter God."
>
> – Father Scott Traynor

Sin can get in the way

While a lack of trust in God, religion, or the Church can prevent us from experiencing God's love, sin—our own and the sins of others—can also blind us to it.

"What every sin has in common is that in one form or another it is a turning away from God's love. God can't force us to love him; he waits for us to receive and respond," Father Traynor says. "At the last supper Jesus commanded us to 'love one another as I have loved you.' We fail a thousand times a day to do that, but we must remember that everyone is commanded to love as Jesus loves. When people fail and we are mistreated or unloved, it causes pain which gives rise to fear and woundedness that can keep us from experiencing God's love, responding to it, and loving others."

Father Scott Traynor, Vicar for Lay and Clergy Formation

Father Traynor explained that woundedness is caused by the opposites of love: hate (the total dedication of energy to destroy what is true, good and beautiful), selfishness (which manifests as walking away from commitment when it is difficult), consumerism, and self-seeking.

"These are opposite of what we admire in the saints who are generous, committed, sacrificial. These qualities and ability to love others as God loves us require his grace," he says.

"A great help to grow in love is service—disinterested labor for the good of others," Father Traynor says, adding that in tough cultural times, anything that exposes us to the true, good and beautiful, such as art, music and nature, can open us to receive God's love.

Love is a gift of self

Love can be a vague idea. The word can be used casually, robbing it of its true meaning and making us willing to give and receive less than what is authentic. But Pope Saint John Paul II's "Theology of the Body" gives us the beautiful gift of love defined as a sincere gift of self, given freely, totally, faithfully and fruitfully.

"We can see this in Jesus on the cross where he freely loved us," Father Traynor says. "Remember he said in John 10:18 'No one takes it [my life] from me, but I lay it down on my own.' It was a complete gift of self, faithfully unconditional because while sinless he died for sinners. And it was life-giving, fruitful, saving us from eternal death."

This is how Jesus commands us to love one another as he loves us. It is how we are to love as missionary disciples: freely, totally, faithfully and in a way that leads to greater life. The fruit, the greater life, the crowning achievement—the capstone—is heaven.

"God created us for heaven, and heaven is not a spectator sport. It's a full participation in God's own love—the love of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit forever," Father Traynor says. "The real measure (of our lifelong Catholic missionary discipleship) is if we are leading others to God's love and heaven forever."

"God's love isn't just a nice tagline for our diocesan vision," Father Traynor summarized. "It's like the fabric of a tapestry. It's the fabric against which all the elements of lifelong Catholic missionary discipleship are stitched in place; it holds the rest of the vision together."

I almost left the Church
The Good Shepherd
brought me back home

By Pauline Lev

We all have a story

Every Christian who walks the path of the disciple has a story to tell. We live in a culture hostile in many ways to a life following Jesus. It takes a conscious, active choice to follow Him.

Our journey from pre-evangelization to discipleship takes us deeper and deeper into his sheepfold, into the kingdom of God and the Catholic Church. Jesus invites us to the sheepfold of his Church, and he never stops inviting us to enter more and more deeply into his love and his mercy. A disciple is always learning and growing.

Each person's story of this journey is different. Some people's stories are slow-moving, and it might be hard for them to pinpoint the actual moment when they chose to enter for themselves and stay in the sheepfold of the Church. Others have a flashier story—more like being hit over the head with a two-by-four—and their "yes" turned their life upside down.

The common thread in all our stories is that Jesus calls us to himself with an attraction that makes us choose: him or the world. And then he gives us the grace we need to swim against the strong current of our culture.

Jordan Friske and Arianne Dennison's stories of how they entered the sheepfold are probably relatable to most of us. There were challenges and suffering, but ultimately growth, lasting joy and peace when they chose to follow the Good Shepherd.

> **"If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills and go in search of the stray? And if he finds it, amen, I say to you, he rejoices more over it than over the ninety-nine that did not stray."**
>
> *Matthew 18:12-13*

Jordan's story

Jordan Friske grew up in Castlewood in a solid Catholic home. They went to Mass as a family, prayed together and spoke of the faith often. When he was 14, his dad passed away in a farm accident. It was a difficult time for him as he and his dad were very close.

When Jordan went to college, his faith life really slipped away from him.

"I was a practicing Catholic in college in that I would still go to Mass every Sunday, but really my one hour a week on Sunday was different from how I was living my life apart from that," Jordan says.

He didn't tell anyone about his drift away from the faith except for his mom. She was understanding.

"She never came down on me really hard, because she knew that it was something that I had to go through. I was 23 at the time, and I had to learn a lot on my own," Jordan says.

EMILY AND JORDAN FRISKE WITH DAUGHTERS JOSIE AND ADDIE

His relationship with the Catholic Church became even rockier when he and his girlfriend at the time began talking about marriage. As a Protestant, she was not open to the Catholic Church, and they began to go to different churches and services to see what they both liked. Jordan felt at the time like it really didn't matter which church they went to. Even so, he wanted to keep attending Mass as well as go to a service with his girlfriend. The more this went on, the more she was upset by her perception that other churches were not "good enough" for him.

"I just didn't have any knowledge to answer any of those questions [she was asking] and answer why. I felt very uninformed, discouraged and frustrated with my lack of knowledge," Jordan says.

A month after his engagement, his mom encouraged him to go to a Matthew Kelly event in Rapid City. It was there his heart was touched and he clearly heard the invitation of Jesus to dive back into his faith.

"That was the time when I was able to hear the teachings of the faith and reasons to be Catholic apart from my catechesis growing up in school and your regular 10-minute homily," Jordan says. "That was where the fire was really lit."

Jordan started to seek out information and dive more into his faith. His mom supplied him with Lighthouse Catholic Media CDs and books, and he listened to Catholic radio. He also started to live more of a Catholic life. During Lent, he started going to adoration every week.

"I remember sneaking out of my room [to go to adoration] so my roommates wouldn't see because I was a little embarrassed about it. I didn't want to tell them, 'I'm doing this thing where I'm just sitting in an empty church, just me and Jesus,'" Jordan laughs. "But I was trying. I was there and I was making the effort."

His reversion to the faith was not without its suffering. "It was a combination of joy that I had this, but also sadness then because I wasn't sure where it would take me with my fiancée," Jordan says. It was not long after that his relationship with his fiancée became more strained and hit a crossroads, and they called off their engagement.

After graduating college in the spring of 2013, Jordan moved to California for a new job. "After [I moved] it was kind of like I was on a perpetual silent retreat. I was in a one-bedroom apartment, and I would go to my job and I would come home and read," Jordan says. "Eventually, I knew I couldn't do that forever. I needed to get a social life. I knew that I wanted to have friends that would help me to be accountable in my faith and share the same faith and the same passion for my faith as I did."

Jordan found friendship and accountability with friends he met at St. Mark's Parish in San Marcos, California. These friends started a men's group called the Sheenists (after Blessed Archbishop Sheen). "That was the accountability I never had," Jordan says.

He also started a chapter of St. Paul Street Evangelization with a friend. In August of 2014, they visited St. Stephen Parish in Valley Center, California, to share about the work they were doing, and it was then that he met his future wife, Emily.

Jordan and Emily were married in November of 2016 and now have two little girls.

"Marriage has been the biggest blessing and the biggest challenge. I didn't realize how selfish I was until I got married. And especially when we had kids," Jordan says. They reside in Valley Center and are members at St. Stephen.

When he thinks back about his life before his return to the sheepfold of the Church, he wonders what kind of person, what kind of father and husband, he would have been without his relationship with Jesus and the Church.

"[Before] I would try to find my approval and joy and pleasure from the world, and now I know that the world has it all backwards, and we will never be truly happy trying to keep up with what our culture tells us will make us happy," Jordan explains. "I am at peace, I have joy and true happiness walking with the Church on this path to virtue and holiness. I have a faith that would never leave me."

Keeping this faith has not been without its challenges for Jordan and Emily. An unexpected challenge to their marriage arose when one of their children nearly died due to a pool accident.

"Hard things happen. I know now that you don't leave or rebel. I would always still have that peace and joy at the end of the day.

I might question why this would happen, but ultimately, I know that God knows what is best for me and my family. The suffering is in your life temporarily for a greater good."

Arianne's story

Arianne Dennison grew up in Sioux Falls and attended Catholic school. Her family attended Mass each Sunday and her mother frequently talked about Jesus and prayed with Arianne and her siblings.

When Arianne was in high school, her parents divorced and her mom almost died from a brain aneurysm. At that point, they stopped going to Mass consistently, although Arianne and her siblings continued in their education at O'Gorman. She started hanging out with different friends, tried different activities and lost touch with the strong Catholic friends she had before. When she went to college, she distanced herself even more from the Catholic Church.

"I knew this entire time that Jesus was calling me, but I would just shove it down and ignore it. I didn't want someone to call me higher because I didn't want to deal with the person I was being, because I didn't like the person I was being," Arianne says.

She struggled with anxiety and depression. "When I was with my friends, I'm sure it seemed from the outside we were so happy and so joyful and having so much fun. But at the end of the day when I was by myself in my room relaxing or trying to be quiet, I just couldn't," Arianne says. "If you don't truly know that you are loved by someone for who you are without all of the noise, then you're never going to be who you're supposed to be, you're never going to be able to sit in peace and happiness and experience true joy."

By this time, Arianne's sister had left the Church and joined a non-denominational church. In Arianne's sophomore year, her sister invited her to a non-denominational retreat. "I don't know how or why, but I said yes," Arianne says.

While on retreat, "there was a band playing up on stage, and so many people down on their knees." It moved her, but she felt like something was missing.

"In that moment when I closed my eyes, in an instant I was back in the Holy Spirit chapel in adoration, during a Search retreat," Arianne says. "That was probably the only time I'd ever experienced adoration. I was sitting there in the chapel staring at the Blessed Sacrament, and for the first time in a long time I felt this huge weight was lifted off my shoulders. And here I was at this non-denominational retreat, and Jesus brought me back to that moment."

From that day, she knew she wanted to return to the Catholic faith.

By her junior year, she moved into the Newman Center where a few other students lived as well, and she started spiritual direction with Father Jeffrey Norfolk. Her old friends and boyfriend did not understand the changes she was making in her life, and she stopped getting invited to hang out with them.

"That should be heartbreaking, losing all your friends," Arianne says. "And I know that Jesus had me wrapped in his heart, covered in his blood, because I didn't have heartbreak from it. It hurt, but it was almost like a relief. I didn't have any other excuse not to run to Jesus with everything."

Arianne continued to grow stronger in her faith. Father Norfolk, friends she made at the Newman Center, and the FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) missionaries on campus made big differences in her life.

After she graduated from college, she served as a FOCUS missionary for two years, during which she married her husband, Casson. The couple now lives in Dell Rapids and has two young children. Arianne has been a stay-at-home mom since serving with FOCUS.

Family life has challenged Arianne and Casson to find new ways to live and share their faith with their children. "My husband and I know that we need to be poured into by Jesus in order to love each other authentically and our kids authentically," Arianne says.

ARIANNE AND CASSON DENNISON WITH THEIR CHILDREN LUCY AND CASSON PETER

They go to Sunday Mass at St. Mary Parish in Dell Rapids as a family, and the couple attends daily Mass and adoration as often as they can. They also go to confession regularly together.

Arianne is immensely grateful for being fully in the sheepfold of the Catholic Church. "I just know from the bottom of my heart that I would be discontent and dissatisfied [if I was not Catholic]. If I hadn't gotten back into my faith, I would have been searching for the rest of my life for something that I wouldn't have given a chance to."

The stories we're waiting on

It's wonderful and encouraging to hear stories of those who have responded positively to God's call in their life. But sometimes it can be painful, too, when we think of those we love who have chosen to reject God's invitation. We are still waiting and praying that there will be more to their story.

C.S. Lewis likens winning someone back to the faith to a divorced man trying to win back his estranged wife. There is cynicism, woundedness and misunderstanding.

Father Patrick Grode, chaplain of Pius XII Newman Center at SDSU, says, "It's very important to listen carefully" to our loved ones who have left the faith. "We need to resist the urge to be defensive. We have to be aware that a person who feels wronged doesn't need to be reasoned with, they need to be cared for."

This can be challenging because it's hard to listen to someone who is hurt and angry. We also need to remember we have power in prayer, even if we cannot engage our loved ones in conversation about their choices to leave the faith. Arianne had an aunt who prayed for her daily before her reversion.

"Having her witness and her silent prayers, I really believe they were a huge part of what changed my life," Arianne says.

Pope St. Paul VI said, "Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses." We must continue our own growth and deepening of our relationship with Jesus in order to be this living witness of Jesus' love.

"From what I have seen, many fallen-away Catholics fall in love with Jesus because someone else shared, from the depths of their own experience, why Jesus is loveable," says Father Grode.

In the final installment of the Narnia series by C.S. Lewis, as the characters enter into Aslan's country, one of them cries out, "I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now...Come further up, come further in!"

Our land is the Good Shepherd's sheepfold; our place of belonging is the Catholic Church. This journey of discipleship is an adventure following our God as he continuously calls us "further up and further in." May we follow his voice wherever it leads us. It is only in following his still, small voice that we will find true joy, peace and fulfillment.

FATHER PATRICK GRODE, CHAPLAIN AT THE PIUS XII NEWMAN CENTER AT SDSU IN BROOKINGS

How do we know Church teachings are biblical?

Q *Last November, you answered a question about why Catholics don't read the Bible more. I have a related but different question: how do I respond to people who say the Church's teachings aren't biblical?*

A This is another great question, especially because it's such a common one; many other Christians look at the Church's teachings in light of their own reading of the Bible and wonder where those teachings came from, or even more, how Catholics can square their teachings with the Bible.

By way of answering this question, I'd like to start with this point: the Catholic Church firmly and absolutely teaches that none of its doctrines contradict Scripture. That is, there are no Catholic teachings that go against the Bible.

Now, many other Christians will certainly disagree with that assertion, but it's worth noting, because it highlights the importance of the Bible in the Church's eyes. The Catholic Church recognizes the Bible as the uniquely-inspired Word of God, which is without error in what it teaches, and which nourishes the entire Church and the individual Christian. It would be impossible, then, for the Catholic Church to ever blithely dismiss the Bible and teach something that contradicts the Bible.

So, the Catholic Church deeply values the Bible. In fact, to have to state that almost feels like an obvious understatement, but unfortunately, many people are unaware of how much the Church cherishes Scripture and drinks deeply from its life-giving truths.

With that in mind, let's continue our conversation about how to respond to this question.

When I'm talking with people who see a contradiction between the Church's teachings and the Bible, I try to get specific and ask them to explain how, exactly, they think the teachings contradict the Bible. Oftentimes their view is based on a misunderstanding of what the Church teaches. In fact, many have observed that while there are millions of Christians who disagree with what they *think* the Catholic Church teaches, it's a much smaller number who disagree with what the Church *actually* teaches. We've touched on some of these instances in previous columns. For example, the claim that the Catholic practice of praying to Mary contradicts the Bible is based on the false idea that Catholics *worship* Mary.

But we can go beyond simply saying Church teachings don't contradict the Bible. The deeper truth is that the Church's teachings are the *most* biblical of Christian doctrines. There have been countless Christians—many of them pastors or professors—who, upon examining Catholic teaching more deeply and objectively, found them to be not only in accord with Scripture, but also to be *deeply rooted* in the Bible.

Marian devotion is a great example. Many Christians, Catholic and otherwise, are unaware of the deep biblical roots of the Catholic practice of approaching Mary in order to more deeply approach her Son. When we are attentive to all of Scripture, we find this practice has ancient biblical roots.

In brief, we see in the Old Testament, the most important woman in the kingdom of Israel was often not the king's wife, but his mother. She was the one regarded as the queen, not his wife. The "Queen Mother" served as a counsellor to the king and as an intercessor for those who sought his favor. And of course, Jesus is *the* King of Israel and indeed of the universe, and just as in the Old Testament, today his "subjects" are invited to approach him more deeply by way of his mother, the Queen Mother, Mary.

Another example is the role of Peter and his successors, the popes. In Matthew 16:19, Jesus gives Peter the keys to the kingdom. For the reader who again is aware of and attentive to the entirety of the Bible, this calls to mind an important role in the kingdom of Israel: that of the prime minister. For example, in Isaiah 22, we read about Eliakim, who acts on behalf of the king to oversee the administrative affairs of the kingdom, *symbolized by the giving of keys*. Not only that, but we read there that Eliakim will be a father to the people. So, too, will Peter and his successors (the popes, "papa") govern the new Israel, the Church, on behalf of Christ the King.

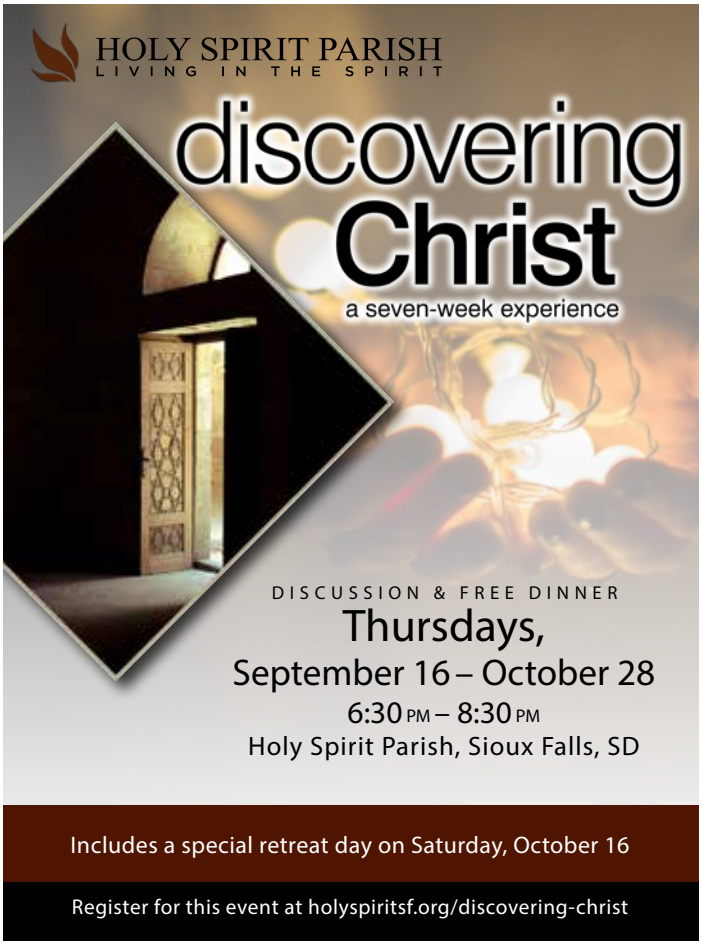
These are just two of the countless examples in which we find not merely the absence of contradiction between Church doctrine and the Bible, but in fact that Church doctrine comes from the Bible and hence is essentially synonymous with biblical teaching.

Be sure to check out the additional resources at sfcatholic.org/answer. If you have a question you need an answer to, email rkranz@sfcatholic.org.

Chris Burgwald holds a doctorate in theology and is the director of discipleship formation for the Diocese of Sioux Falls.

St. Wilfrid Parish celebrates 100th anniversary

St. Wilfrid Parish, Woonsocket, celebrated their 100th anniversary in June with a Mass with Bishop DeGrood. Photo above: Bishop DeGrood gives a blessing after Mass. Photo left: Bishop DeGrood greets the Heber family in the church foyer (Holly and JP Heber and sons Harley, Haven, Harlen and Herby). Photos courtesy of Gay Lynne Ames.



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Incubating an apostolate leads to flourishing service

By Jon Konz

in·cu·ba·tor

/ˈiNGkyəˌbādər/
noun

1. an enclosed apparatus providing a controlled environment for the care and protection of premature or unusually small babies.

Growing up as a farm kid on the fertile soils of southwestern Minnesota, we were never short of random pets. One day, Dad brought home some duck eggs he found while working in the pasture. We were all excited to see the ducks hatch. When they did hatch, we sat in awe of the life unfolding before us—a silent, sacred moment.

The pure excellence of this experience was enough to help us forget about how boring everything was leading up to the ducks hatching. Days full of nothing. Well, not nothing exactly, just nothing entertaining. We waited for what seemed like *forever* while the eggs just sat in an old, dusty incubator. The incubator kept the eggs warm and slowly rotated them—a process that is necessary for a duck to have life, even if it isn't at all fun to watch.

By now, many of us have heard Bishop DeGrood's vision for the Diocese of Sioux Falls: *Lifelong Catholic Missionary Discipleship Through God's Love.*

Jon Konz, director of Faith Formation at St. Katharine Drexel Parish, Sioux Falls.

Diocesan staff have done a great job of communicating what this means, and it has inspired a lot of invigorating conversation. It is a call to mission. It is a call for each of us to step into the apostolic age of the Church.

"Apostle" is the English version of the Greek word "apostolos," meaning "messenger" or "sent forth." With this vision, Bishop is inviting us to discern how we are each called to build the kingdom here on earth, to discover our lay apostolates. When I reflect on this, I get quickly energized, and my prayer begins to sound like this: "Awesome! Just give me the plans, Jesus, and I'll get to work!"

It is easy for me to get busy with zeal for the call. I dream up the big plans that God *must* have in store for my life. I want to be filled with a great thirst for souls like St. Maria Faustina or become a cigar-smoking, mountain-climbing force of nature like St. Pier Giorgio Frassati.

I get so riled up by the idea of being used by God in a powerful way that I lose sight of the fact that the saints' lives were so potent because of what happened while their apostolate was incubating. Hours spent before the Blessed Sacrament. Money quietly given away. Internal battles against the powers of hell that no one would ever see. At these times, they were like little eggs staying warm, doing nothing. On the inside life was being formed in the fullest sense.

What environment do we need to become the saints the world needs today? The following are three pillars the saints seem to hold in common. They are necessary to incubate a lay apostolate, even if they're not all that fun to watch.

Pray

We may all want a vacation, but we need a retreat. Be like Jesus. Go away by yourself and pray. This is the single most important daily activity of any person's life. Not eating food may lead to physical death, but not praying leads to spiritual death. Tap into the source of living water and quench your soul's thirst.

Serve

Praying prepares us to serve our spouses, children, neighbors and employers. When we have been filled with heavenly things, we become good trees. Good trees bear good fruit. Good fruit is delicious and easy to hand out.

Engage

Serving helps us to engage our lives in the here and now. We need to become keenly aware of the present moment. The present moment is where the Lover and the Beloved meet. You can perceive God's work in the past, and you can count on his presence in the future, but now is where you encounter him.

Responding to God right now is the call of the saint, it is how holiness is inculcated, and it is a surefire way to incubate your apostolate. As you do so, you may even find that life is already flourishing.

Priests work to give the unknown a place to rest

By Renae Kranz

Running a parish can keep a priest quite busy. Confessions, Masses, funerals, weddings, emergencies, and parish administrative work are just some of the things vying for their attention every day. Among all these responsibilities, priests also need to tend to their relationship with Jesus and do good works for others.

One group of priests has found a way to help others, but these "others" are not able to thank them or show any kind of gratitude, at least not in this life. They tend to those who have died and have no one to pray for them.

Father Jordan Samson, pastor of Christ the King Parish in Sioux Falls, was riding with a funeral home director in early 2020 to a burial at St. Michael Catholic Cemetery. The funeral director made reference to a "pauper's graveyard" that Father Samson had not heard about before. He learned it was the Minnehaha County Cemetery where the poor or "unclaimed" can receive burial.

"The word 'unclaimed' really struck me," Father Samson said. "I was saddened to discover that someone can die and no one claims the body, or that someone can be described as unclaimed. The thought arose in my mind and a desire on my heart to show some charity to this place of rest and the poor souls who are buried there."

About a month later, Father Samson learned more about the cemetery from Phil Schmitz of George Boom Funeral Home who manages the burials at Minnehaha County Cemetery. Father Samson and Father John Rutten made a trip to the cemetery on Memorial Day (2020) to pray for those buried there. They noticed that little maintenance was done to the property. They also couldn't help but feel pulled to do something for the roughly 200 unmarked graves in a large field.

Birth of a service ministry

Father Samson was feeling a real desire to do something for the souls buried at this cemetery, but he knew he would need help. His involvement in a Catholic movement called Communion and Liberation had become a big part of his life and spirituality. The movement emphasizes taking up charitable works together, so he knew he could reach out to other priests in the movement to begin this good work together.

"From a document we read together about charitable work it says, 'above all, our very nature requires us to be interested in others … we do charitable work so that we may learn to fulfill the task of becoming ourselves.' It also says that we do charitable work to live like Christ—Christ who 'became poor and shared our nothingness,'" Father Samson said. "We really see it as a fruit of our communion and life together."

Now once a month several priests go to the cemetery together to trim bushes and clean up garbage. Some of the graves in the large field have been there since the 1880s, mostly unmarked, unknown and unclaimed. Recently they've been setting headstones to mark the previously unmarked graves, making the unknown known once again.

"It is our hope that this work recognizes them, remembers them," Father Samson said. "We always end our time by praying for them and for their repose, that they would know, finally, what it is to belong to God."

Father Paul Rutten, pastor at St. Mary Parish in Sioux Falls, is one of the priests who has been working with Father Samson on this project.

Above: Fr. Jordan Samson digs the spot where a marker will be placed. Below left: Fr. Paul Rutten and Fr. Samson place the marker.

It's had an impact on both of them.

"Every person's life matters and to have a dignified resting place with a marker is the least we can do for our brothers and sisters who have gone before us," Father Rutten said. "As Catholics, we are called to pray for the dead, and one would imagine some of these people may not have anyone around who still remembers them or prays for them. It has helped me to be cognizant of the fact that one day I will be in need of other's prayers and sacrifices. It also reminds me that even small gestures done with love can have a profound impact on the lives of others."

Father Samson has been reminded of how short life is as they work at the cemetery. "I think it's important that everyone have a place to rest, and to know that their life in some mysterious way, really does matter," he said.

"It has been a simple gesture, but one that reflects the importance of each person who walks on this earth," Father Rutten said. "While no one may ever see these headstones, it reminds me that we should simply do what has been asked of us by God and trust that that is enough."

Girls' faith inspires others

By Lois Heron

Lois Heron with the Bishop's Bulletin recently sat down with Ella (18) and Maya (16) Heinitz, two sisters involved in building relationships with other teenagers. The sisters have partnered with Lumen Christi missionaries to establish a Bible study group in their parish, St. Mary in Dell Rapids. In this conversation, Lois explores the girls' desire to share their faith and become the missionary disciples they are called to be.

Tell us about your faith journey and how it has spurred you on to grow in your understanding of the Lord's love for you as you have matured.

Ella: My faith journey has been steady and gradual. I would say I have had consistent experiences throughout my life, like attending a Catholic school, Presentation camp, D-Camp, numerous retreats, and my own confirmation process have all been a part of my journey. Most recently, St. Mary had a NET team at our parish for several weeks this past winter, and that had a profound impact on me. Their fire and passion for Christ was contagious.

Maya: My faith journey has been a true blessing. As a child, I learned about my faith from my family and teachers. As I got older, I began to make my faith my own and develop a trusting and strong relationship with Jesus. From receiving the sacraments to religious camps and classes, I have been spiritually impacted. I am so grateful for my faith journey.

How has the faith, lived out in your family life, parish life and social circles, affected your own walk with the Lord?

Maya: The faith has always been the center of my life, and I owe that to my family, parish and school. I am so fortunate to have a Catholic environment to be in where my friends and family help bring me closer to God each day.

Ella: The Catholic faith has always been an important part of my family. My parents really made faith a daily and consistent part of our lives. I always remember nightly devotions with our whole family. That time together every night helped center me and put every day in perspective.

When did you come to the place where your family's practice of the faith took on more meaning in your life?

Ella: After my confirmation and as I got older, I think I realized the gift that faith was for me in my life. At that point, I also realized it was a bit more up to me and a personal choice to continue to grow in my faith.

Maya: I went to a discipleship camp and encountered Jesus like I never had before. Ever since then, I have learned to be more personal with my relationship with God and take on the responsibility to maintain a strong faith.

When have you felt closest to the Lord?

Maya: I feel the closest to God at adoration. Whenever I have a true connection to the Heavenly Host at adoration, I can feel the Holy Spirit within me. That feeling is the best feeling in the world, and it makes me long for an eternity with God.

Ella: I feel closest to God after worshiping at Mass. Singing songs of praise makes me feel united with the Church in an effort to honor our Creator. Along with this I am able to receive the Eucharist, which is the ultimate connection we can have on earth with our heavenly Father.

Why is faith in the Lord important to you?

Maya: Faith in the Lord is important to me because it is all that matters in the end. Being faithful to the one who created me, loves me infinitely, and is with me always will always be my first priority.

Ella: Because it gives me joy and guidance. My faith helps me to feel a purpose, that I am here for a greater reason than myself.

As you consider the sacraments of our Catholic faith, which have helped you the most in your faith journey?

Maya: The sacraments that have helped me the most would have to be reconciliation and Communion. During reconciliation, I can really connect to Jesus on a very honest level. I can show God my worst and still know he loves me no differently, and that he died for me even at my worst. I still pray a penance that a priest asked me to pray after one confession: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." Praying in that way opens me up to transformation in my life. When receiving the Eucharist, I get to experience Jesus in a very raw and eye-opening way. Though God is always with us, I feel his presence the strongest when I receive him in the Eucharist.

Ella: I would definitely say the sacrament of reconciliation has helped me the most in my faith journey. It reminds me of God's infinite mercy and his love for me. To come before a priest with all my sins gives me a sense of renewal and frees me from guilt in an indescribable way. I feel like confession has helped grow my relationship with Christ the most. There was a penance our priest offered to me that has stayed with me in my daily walk with the Lord. Father asked me to pray, "Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on me" three times. It continues to make a difference in how I live my life.

What are some of the challenges for you in living as a faithful follower of Jesus?

Ella: I think the biggest challenge for me living as a faithful follower of Jesus is making him the main priority of my life. I sometimes feel like I get so busy with other things that I don't take the time I should to spend in prayer and in his presence during the day.

Maya: Some challenges that can arise in my faith life are not trusting in God's plan for me when I reach obstacles. Sometimes it is hard to understand God's plan for you when you feel like God is giving you obstacles that are too hard to handle. When I am struggling with something and I am tempted to do something wrong, I think of 1 Corinthians 10:13: "God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

What are some significant things that have happened in your life when you have felt the Lord's presence?

Ella: I would definitely say that I feel the Lord's presence when at youth church camps. I believe they are so important for developing faith in young teens and children. They bring you together with a community that all has a common desire to worship the Lord, and it gives you a sense of the body of Christ on earth. I attended a Presentation Sister's camp once. Even though I was reluctant to go, once there I opened up in the graces that were offered at the camp. I especially liked the encouragement I received in my own faith in the Lord as the counselors assisted me in becoming more open to dialogue about the challenges of living the faith.

Maya: I agree with Ella. The significant moments in my life where I have felt the Lord's presence are when I've been prayed over by other campers and the counselors. In those moments, I just feel a very real connection. It reminds me that he is with me in my moments of struggle, as well as my moments of joy. Knowing that he has been with me through everything makes me feel closer to him than anybody else.

What are you enjoying as you participate in the Lumen Christi study group?

Ella: I think what piqued my interest in Lumen Christi was the fact that these are young adults who are so excited about their faith and want to evangelize to others around the Midwest. It is so inspiring to see the sacrifice and love they show giving up their summers to come and help others grow in their faith. I think that really inspired me the most.

I'm enjoying being the group leader; we are using the Formed.org series, "The Search." It's therapeutic to listen to the videos about the search for meaning everyone experiences. The series connects what we know about the Catholic faith with the big questions that we think about: Who am I? Why was I created? What's the purpose of living my Catholic faith? How can I do that when the culture doesn't accept the Creator's answers? Our discussions help a lot. I'm looking forward to becoming a part of a group like Lumen Christi when I go to Augustana in the fall.

Maya: Seeing other people who are just as interested and passionate about Jesus is very inspiring. I am looking forward to growing closer to them, and through them, growing closer to God.

I agree with Ella, the series is showing us how to live our faith authentically. Our group discussions are great. I'm looking forward to leading the group once Ella leaves for university. I also hope to assist with the confirmation classes at our parish as well.

Adoption services offered in Diocese of Rapid City

Catholic Social Services (CSS), a widely recognized organization with a 45-year history in the Diocese of Rapid City, is transitioning the family services adoption program to Trinity Pregnancy and Adoption. CSS is committed to building and supporting strong families in South Dakota. CSS has over four decades of experience with the placement of more than 300 children with "forever" families.

Trinity Pregnancy and Adoption is the only accredited agency in South Dakota by the Intercountry Adoption Accreditation and Maintenance Entity (IAAME) organization. IAAME's purpose is the accreditation, approval, monitoring and oversight of adoption service providers providing intercountry adoption services.

Trinity offers free pregnancy counseling, international adoption resources, monthly support group for foster and adoptive families, and contracted home studies.

Trinity Pregnancy and Adoption will continue to provide thoughtful adoption services through Catholic Social Services. Trinity is available to assist all parties of the adoption triad (birth parents, adoptive parents, and adopted children) across South Dakota.

For more information visit Catholic Social Service's website cssrapidcity.com or call 605-348-6086 or visit Trinity's website trinityadoption.org.

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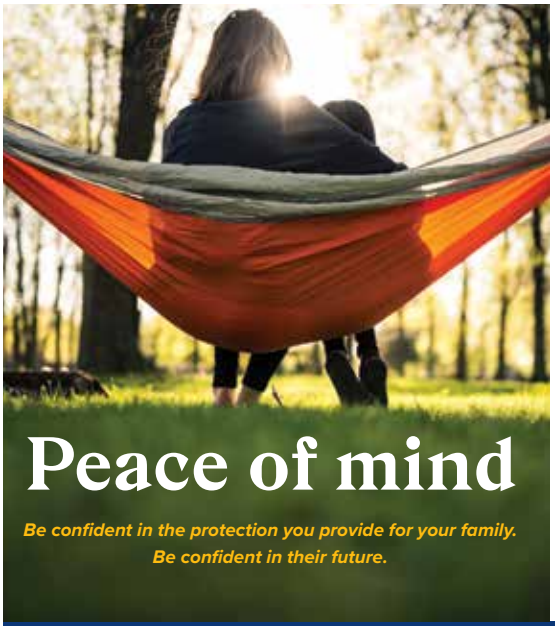

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Mission SOS offers a place to pray for the unborn

By Marcus Ashlock

Do you want to be involved more regularly with the pro-life movement but standing out in the weather or in public is not your calling? Maybe in your youth standing for a full Rosary was something you could do often, but now you have bad knees and would rather sit. What if you could pray in private with other individuals?

Mission SOS (Saving Others Spiritually) is a lay ministry that provides a prayer space in an apartment next door to Planned Parenthood in Sioux Falls. It's a place where anyone can come to pray for the mothers considering abortion.

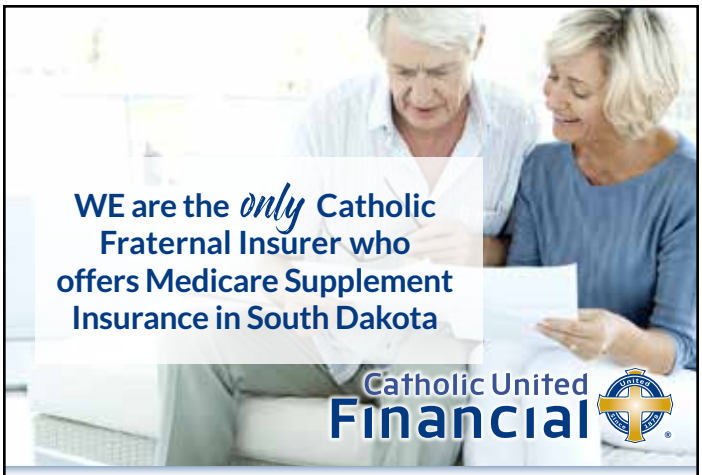
The group has coordinated its efforts with the men of Jericho Wall who pray each Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. Women and children who come with their husbands at that time come to the prayer space to pray. Their prayers are reaching out to those in need before those mothers even know they need the help.

Started by Sara and Tim Beaner with the help of Larry and Darlene Tentinger, the ministry's mission is to pray for hearts to change, the hearts of both the women visiting the clinic and those who work there.

The prayer space is inside a full apartment with spare rooms for resting, as well as full bathroom facilities, and even a room with pews for non-Catholic brothers and sisters to come and pray without feeling out of place. They were able to get kneelers, statues and other religious items from a convent that had recently closed to fill the space with items to inspire prayerfulness.

For more information about Mission SOS, visit missionsos.weadorehim.com.

Editor's note: Mission SOS is a lay-led ministry and is not sponsored by a specific parish or the Diocese of Sioux Falls.



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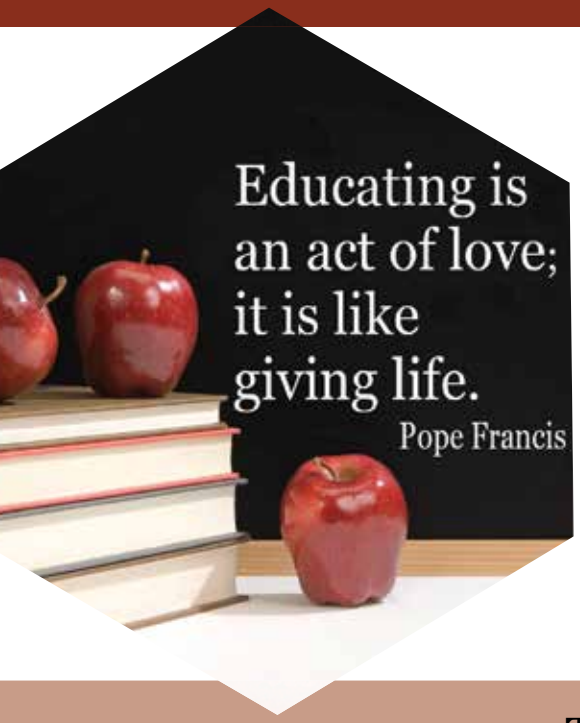

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To discover more about the Sisters visit:
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ABERDEEN – Earl and Arlene Randall celebrated their 70th anniversary on July 10. They have 3 children (1 deceased), 9 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.

ABERDEEN – Robert and Marilyn Coyle will celebrate their 60th anniversary on August 12. They have 3 children, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.

ABERDEEN – Denny and Cindy Haliburton will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 13. They have 5 children, 9 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.

ABERDEEN – Thomas and Francella Butch will celebrate their 65th anniversary on August 18. They have 3 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.

ARTESIAN – Bill and Kathy Austerman celebrated their 40th anniversary on July 18. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Charles Parish.

BOWDLE – Bob and Judie Beadle will celebrate their 55th anniversary on August 6. They have 4 children, 21 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Augustine Parish.

BRYANT – Ray and Ann Galbraith will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 21. They have 4 children, 9 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.

DAKOTA DUNES – Joe and Diana Twidwell celebrated their 50th anniversary on July 31. They have 3 children, 9 grandchildren and are members of St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish.

DELL RAPIDS – Jack and Alice Majeres will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 21. They have 4 children, 11 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.

FLANDREAU – John and Elizabeth Prunty will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 21. They have 4 children, 10 grandchildren and are members of Sts. Simon and Jude Parish.

GARRETSON – Greg and Gaye Lynn Beaner will celebrate their 30th anniversary on August 17. They have 3 children and are members of St. Rose of Lima Parish.

GEDDES – Raymond and Kay Mushitz will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Aug 21. They have 2 children, 1 grandchild and are members of St. Ann Parish.

HOVEN – Kenny and Kathy Vogel will celebrate their 40th anniversary on August 22. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Anthony of Padua Parish.

KRANZBURG – Kenneth and Kathy Dagel will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 28. They have 3 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of Holy Rosary Parish.

MILBANK – Leon and Shirley Jurgens will celebrate their 65th anniversary on August 25. They have 5 children, 14 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren (3 deceased) and are members of St. Lawrence Parish.

MILBANK – Dale and Pam Adelman will celebrate their 55th anniversary on August 27. They have 3 children, 10 grandchildren and are members of St. Lawrence Parish.

MITCHELL – John and Darlene Lauer will celebrate their 65th anniversary on August 28. They have 6 children, 14 grandchildren (1 deceased) and 7 great-grandchildren and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.

PARKER – Jim and Linda Kasten will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 23. They have 3 children, 7 grandchildren and are members of St. Christina Parish.

PARKER – Mark and Kathy Kasten will celebrate their 25th anniversary on August 24. They have 3 children and are members of St. Christina Parish.

PIERRE – Albert and Lorraine Ebach will celebrate their 60th anniversary on August 23. They have 4 children, 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren and are members of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish.

PLANKINTON – Jim and Laura Mayclin will celebrate their 65th anniversary on August 9. They have 6 children, 16 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren and are members of St. John Parish.

POLO – Ken and Pam Schaefer will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 28. They have 3 children, 8 grandchildren and are members of St. Liborius Parish.

SIOUX FALLS – Bruce and Dianne Mair celebrated their 50th anniversary on July 24. They have 3 children, 7 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.

SIOUX FALLS – Dwight and Donna Dexter celebrated their 50th anniversary on July 10. They have 1 child and Donna is a member of the Cathedral of Saint Joseph.

SIOUX FALLS – Larry and Mary Anne Urban will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 21. They have 3 children (1 deceased), 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.

SIOUX FALLS – Dean and Cheryl Austad will celebrate their 60th anniversary on August 5. They have 3 children (1 deceased) and are members of St. Lambert Parish.

SIOUX FALLS – Ron and Mary Feterl will celebrate their 65th anniversary on August 21. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Katharine Drexel Parish.

SIOUX FALLS – Jerry and Roxi Johnson will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 28. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Lambert Parish.

SISSETON – Duane and Debbie Wooley will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 28. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Peter Parish.

TURTON – Monte and JoAnn Troske will celebrate their 40th anniversary on August 8. They have 3 children, 7 grandchildren and are members of St. Joseph Parish.

ANNIVERSARY SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We accept anniversary submissions for the following anniversary years: 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, and 70. We include them in the issue of the month of the anniversary or the following month's issue. Submissions received for later issues will not be included.

Send a color photo, your anniversary information and a self-addressed, stamped envelope by **August 17** for inclusion in the September 2021 edition to:

The Bishop's Bulletin
523 North Duluth Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
or e-mail to:
rkranz@sfcatholic.org.

TYNDALL – Robert and Karen Schmidt celebrated their 35th anniversary on July 12. Karen is a member of St. Leo the Great Parish.

WATERTOWN – Gary and Mary Fox will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 7. They have 4 children, 12 grandchildren and are members of Immaculate Conception Parish.

WEBSTER – Loren and Lisa Schoenbeck will celebrate their 30th anniversary on August 24. They have 3 children and are members of Christ the King Parish.

WEBSTER – Gary and Trudy Fossum will celebrate their 40th anniversary on August 8. They have 4 children, 10 grandchildren and are members of Christ the King Parish.

WESTPORT – Troy and Julie VanDover will celebrate their 25th anniversary on August 3. They have 1 child and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.

YANKTON – Gene and Aggie Heine will celebrate their 40th anniversary on August 1. They have 2 children, 7 grandchildren and are members of St. Benedict Parish.

Four Benedictine sisters celebrate jubilees

75th Jubilee

Sister Madonna Schmitt, OSB

Sister Madonna Schmitt, OSB, will celebrate her 75th jubilee. She served as a chaplain at Mercy Medical in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, ministering to the sick and dying. She returned to the monastery and, until 2018, volunteered at Mount Marty University and the Benedictine Peace Center. She is now retired and engaged in prayer ministry.

70th Jubilee

Sister Eileen Neville, OSB

Sister Eileen Neville, OSB, will celebrate her 70th jubilee. For over 45 years, Sister Eileen taught English at Mount Marty University where she helped prepare students to teach in culturally diverse settings. After teaching, she was the interim director of ongoing formation for the Sacred Heart Monastery. She is now fully retired and engaged in prayer ministry.

25th Jubilees

Sister Kathryn Burt, OSB

Sister Kathryn Burt, OSB, will celebrate her 25th jubilee. Sister Kathryn served in the Air National Guard while she attended Mount Marty University. After she graduated, she taught nursing to students at Mount Marty University for 11 years. She is currently working at Avera Majestic Bluffs as a nurse educator.

Sister Clarice Korger, OSB

Sister Clarice Korger, OSB, will celebrate her 25th jubilee. Sister Clarice served on many different boards and committees to support the monastery and the surrounding community and is now retired and resides at Sacred Heart Monastery, Yankton.

Bishop's Hunt impacts Newman Centers in diocese

The 28th Annual Bishop's Charity Hunt will be taking to the fields in the Kimball area in September to raise money in support of Newman Centers in the Diocese of Sioux Falls. Priests and lay hunters alike will join Bishop DeGrood to hunt pheasants, swap stories and celebrate Mass.

Produced by the Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota, the hunt will be hosted by Horseshoe K Ranch on September 20-21. There will be plenty of great food, trap shooting to warm up, and prizes to win, not to mention the challenge of hunting.

All proceeds for the Bishop's Charity Hunt benefit Catholic Newman Centers on university campuses in the diocese. These centers are critical places where college students can deepen their faith at a time when the culture works against it. Decisions made during these years have deep impacts on the rest of these student's lives. Strong Catholic campus ministry forms leaders of tomorrow in our society and our Church—from strong husbands and wives to priests and religious.

Here's a snapshot of the impact Newman Centers have on students:

- Average of 130-plus students attending daily Mass
- Over 700 students attending Sunday Mass
- Over 90 weekly Bible studies held on campus with approximately 425 students attending
- Over the past five years, 17 men have entered seminary, and six women have entered religious life

Newman Centers provide services such as Mass and confession, Bible studies, retreat opportunities, service projects, mission trips, marriage prep, RCIA and counseling services.

To learn more about the Bishop's Hunt or to register, visit ccfesd.org/events/bishops-charity-hunt.

Father James Morgan, rector of the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, makes the most of his time at the hunt with other priests and hunters. (Photo by Ellen Keena)

Recitation of the rosary planned Friday, August 6 - The rosary is recited for the faithful departed on the first Friday of the month at 10 a.m. in St. Michael Cemetery in Sioux Falls.

Feast of St. Dominic celebration August 7 - St. Dominic, Canton, is hosting a Mass and parish picnic commemorating the Feast of St. Dominic and 50th anniversary of the current church building. Festivities begin Saturday at 4 p.m. with Mass followed by food, fellowship and fun and end with a procession and Rosary at 8 p.m. Everyone is welcome, free will donation. Contact Amy at stdominiccanton@gmail.com or 605-764-5640 with any questions.

International Marian Festival August 15 - Sacred Heart Parish, Aberdeen, will host their Second International Marian Festival at the parish hall following 11:30 Sunday Mass. Please join us in this free event in honor of Our Lady on her feast day, including Father Andrew Dickinson's testimony, displays of Marian statues and pictures, door prizes, and delicious food from around the world. Please RSVP at sacredheartaberdeen.net or call 605-225-7065.

Rural Catholic DRE Conference August 18 - The 2nd Annual Rural Catholic DRE Conference will be held at All Saints Parish in Mellette. All priests and DRE/PCL's in parishes are invited. The event begins with supper at 5:30 p.m. and speaker Fr. John Short at 6 p.m. Conversation and discussion will follow at 6:30 p.m. Join at any point in the evening that is convenient. Please RSVP if you will join for the meal. Email Laura Melius at mellettedre@sfcatholic.org or call/text 605-228-3945.

Dakota Bowl XLIII August 28 - Save the date for the 43rd Annual Bob Burns Dakota Bowl on Saturday, August 28. Watch as the O'Gorman Knights take on the Roosevelt Rough Riders at McEneaney Field. Kick-off is at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $8. Raffle tickets for your 1-in-250 chance at $5,000 are $100. To purchase game tickets, raffle tickets or make a donation, visit DB43.givesmart.com.

Pray at Planned Parenthood with Jericho's Wall group Tuesdays - In Joshua 1:14 fighting-age men are called to go to Jericho's wall to fight for the women and children. Today we are called to step out for our faith. Men are meeting on Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. at our wall of Planned Parenthood to pray the rosary for our women and children. We are asking for men to join us. If you have questions, call Paul at 605-201-5428. Women are welcome.

Mission S.O.S. open for prayers for life Tuesdays/Thursdays - Mission S.O.S. (Saving Others Spiritually) is for anyone interested in praying for the life of the unborn child and their mother. We are open for prayer Monday through Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at an apartment/chapel with a balcony overlooking Planned Parenthood. To set up a time to come and pray, or for more information, contact Sara at 605-421-8378 or Darlene at 605-254-0951 or visit missionsos.weadorehim.com.

Help for parents who have lost a newborn or pre-born child
If you've lost a child due to miscarriage, still birth or shortly after birth, The Angel Lee Cronen Memorial Fund is available to assist you in dealing with your loss by helping you secure a proper burial for your child. Most parents don't know what to do when faced with this situation and are often unable to pay for the services involved. This fund exists to help during this difficult time. For more information, contact Deacon Bill Radio at 605-336-7390 or dcnwilliamradio@sfcatholic.org.

Sacred Heart Monastery

Silent personal retreats - We are currently accepting fully vaccinated residential retreatants at the Peace Center on a very limited basis. You are welcome to contact us for reservations at 605-668-6292.

August 6 - Online Lectio Divina, Fridays, August 6, 13 and 20 10-10:45 a.m. Meet online for Lectio Divina, a time for praying with the Gospel of the following Sunday. To register any time, contact group leader, S. Penny Bingham OSB at pbingham@yanktonbenedictines.org/605-668-6023. Include your email address.

August 24 - Spiritual Enrichment Program/ Open to men and women who desire to deepen their relationship with God through once-per-month gatherings (by Zoom), selected readings, and a silent retreat experience. Participants will meet Sept. through April, Saturday morning 9:30-11:30 a.m. for prayer and a facilitated group dialogue about the selected reading. Registration deadline is August 24. For more information go to yanktonbenedictines.org/spiritual-enrichment-program or contact us: benedictinepeacectr@yantkonbenedictines.org or 605-668-6292.

Supervision for Spiritual Directors - Please contact S. Jeanne Ranek at jeanne.ranek@yanktonbenedictines.org for more information.

Parish Dinners/Socials

September 12: St. George Parish, Scotland. Annual fall supper. Gather for broasted chicken, baked ham, cheesy potatoes, salads and pie. Serving from 4-7 p.m. with a raffle at 7 p.m.

Catholic Family Services

Grief series - Catholic Family Services will be offering a Summer Grief Series. This is a four-week series beginning Tuesday, July 6. Call us at 605-988-3775 for any questions or if you would like to register.

Surviving Divorce Program - This six-week program begins September 14 in Sioux Falls. Sessions are held on Tuesday evenings, 6-8 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 or cfs@sfcatholic.org. Scholarships are available.

GriefShare - Catholic Family Services is honored to host and facilitate the Cathedral of Saint Joseph's GriefShare program. GriefShare is a worldwide Christian grief program for adults. It blends faith, educational videos, a personal workbook and group discussion. The video series is watched as a large group followed by small group discussions according to the participant's particular loss (loss of a spouse, child, parent, sibling etc.). The program will run for 11 weeks with 13 different topics surrounding grief being covered. GriefShare will begin again on September 14 from 6-8 p.m. Cost of the workbook is $15 (scholarships available) and there will be an opportunity for a free-will offering to help cover the additional costs. For more information about GriefShare or to register, please contact Catholic Family Services at 605-988-3775 or email cfs@sfcatholic.org. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Online GriefShare Program - This program will run for 13 weeks with 13 various topics surrounding grief being covered. GriefShare online will begin again on September 10 and run through November 19 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. The workbook's cost is $15 (scholarships available), and there will be an opportunity for a free-will offering to help cover additional costs. For more information about GriefShare or to register, please contact Catholic Family Services at 605-988-3775 or email cfs@sfcatholic.org. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Bishop's Charity Hunt
EST. 1995

27th Annual
BISHOP'S CHARITY HUNT
Benefiting Newman Catholic Campus Ministry
SEPTEMBER 20 & 21, 2021
Horseshoe K Ranch | Kimball, SD
Produced By Catholic Community Foundation

TO REGISTER, VISIT CCFESD.ORG
OR CALL 605.988.3765

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN
Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls

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SATURDAY
AUGUST 14
5 PM - 9 PM
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