



Monthly publication for the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls  
February 2022

# THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

## THE LORD LOVES

A JOYFUL GIVER

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NEXT GENERATION CATHOLIC

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We are  
*One Faith,  
One Family*

Seeking to unify under the diocesan vision

# God is never outdone in generosity



**Bishop Donald E. DeGrood**  
Ninth Bishop of the Diocese  
of Sioux Falls

**E**arly in my life, I did not really know how much I was loved by God and that he could never be outdone in generosity. I discovered the more I received God's love, the more joyful, fulfilled and generous I became. The reason is because receiving God's love (often called charity) gives us the grace to seek the good of others and enables us to love ourselves as God does.

This type of love is a deep, fraternal loving friendship and shared communion of God's love in and through us. Such love enables us to realize that our deepest desires and potential as human beings are fulfilled.

Growing in charity toward God and others was not always easy as I, like all of us, have disordered desires to be self seeking. Having grown up on a farm with a conservative mentality of saving money to grow the farm, I was very guarded in sharing my financial resources with the Church or others. However, I was also blessed with the incredible witness of my parents who were generous to our parish, Catholic schools and other charities.

Unfortunately, I was slow to grow in financial generosity except in small ways, always coming up with some excuse of why I shouldn't tithe my earnings. However, God kept patiently working on me to taste the goodness of interior freedom related to money and possessions.

Eventually I decided to tithe, and what a significant gift that has been in my life—interior freedom from attachments to money and possessions and the joy of giving without trying to count the cost because God is never outdone in generosity.

The word *tithing* comes from a Hebrew word which means "a tenth," and there are over 100 passages in Scripture that speak about it. In the Old Testament, tithing refers to God's call for everyone to give 10 percent of their annual earnings back to God. In the New Testament, that is

taken as a standard, but the ante is upped: St. Paul, for instance, instructs Christians to "set aside and save *whatever one can afford*" for the collection (1 Cor. 16:2; emphasis added).

More recently, the well-known Venerable Fulton Sheen once said, "Never measure your generosity by what you give, but rather by what you have left." So to use 10 percent as a starting point, I have found five percent given to my local parish (now diocese as bishop) and five percent given to other charities to be a good blend of generosity to the good works of the Church and other good charities.

Tithing 10 percent or even more has helped me shift my mindset from being possessive to being a steward of the gifts God has given to me to be used for good. I wish I had the space in this column to share the many graces God has blessed me with since I began to tithe. For the sake of brevity, I can say it has been and is still truly amazing to learn the crucial lesson of asking God how he desires me to be a steward of his gifts.

He invites us to give generously and to do so with a joyful spirit, for as St. Paul also notes, "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:7). And when we do so, oh what joy, freedom and God's love for the good work of the Church and other charities God provides if we choose to live in the love of God and share it with him and others.

I invite you to pray and join me in being generous in our response to God's many blessings as stewards, so we can help others get to heaven by striving each day to be *Lifelong Catholic Missionary Disciples Through God's Love*. I hope our Bulletin articles this month help demonstrate some of the good works the Church has been able to do through the generosity of so many wonderful people in our diocese.

Know of my prayers for great receptivity of God's love this month.

## February

- 1 6:00 Operation Andrew Dinner,  
St. Thomas Aquinas Newman  
Center, Aberdeen
- 2 8:30 Catholic Schools Week Mass,  
Aberdeen Catholic Schools,  
Roncalli High School,  
Aberdeen
- 5:00 Legislative Mass and  
reception, Ss. Peter and Paul,  
Pierre
- 3 8:00 Catholic Schools Week Mass,  
Saint Joseph Catholic School,  
Ss. Peter and Paul, Pierre
- 1:00 Catholic Schools Week visit,  
John Paul II School, Mitchell
- 4 10:00 Catholic Schools Week Mass,  
Bishop O'Gorman Catholic  
Schools, Elmen Center, Sioux  
Falls
- 5 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of  
Saint Joseph\*
- 6 1:30 Confirmation, St. Teresa of  
Calcutta, Dakota Dunes, St.  
Joseph, Elk Point, St. Peter,  
Jefferson, St. Lambert, Sioux  
Falls, St. Therese, Sioux Falls,  
at Cathedral of Saint Joseph
- 9 7:00 Confirmation at Holy Spirit,  
Sioux Falls
- 13 11:00 Confirmation, St. Catherine,  
Big Bend, St. Joseph, Fort  
Thompson, Immaculate  
Conception, Stephan, at St.  
Joseph in Fort Thompson
- 14-17 USCCB New Bishop  
Orientation
- 19 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of  
Saint Joseph\*
- 21-28 Institute for Priestly  
Formation Bishop's Retreat

## March

- 1-2 Seminary visits
- 5 10:00 Confirmation Ss. Peter and  
Paul, Dimock, Sacred Heart,  
Parkston, at Ss. Peter and  
Paul, Dimock
- 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of  
Saint Joseph\*
- 6 11:00 Confirmation, Cathedral of  
Saint Joseph
- 1:30 Rite of Election for RCIA  
Candidates, Cathedral of  
Saint Joseph

\*Broadcast on Keloland TV or  
live stream via [sfccatholic.org](http://sfccatholic.org)



## A Stewardship Prayer

Lord God,  
Giver of life and all good gifts,  
You anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit  
who inspired him to give everything he had for our sake.  
Move us by the same spirit of stewardship  
to share first to the Lord, for the benefit of all.

By your grace, help us to follow in your footsteps  
and become more focused on loving and caring  
for our families, our neighbors and our communities.

Lead us to the awareness that everything we are  
and everything we have is your gift.

Grant us the spirit of sacrifice to always seek  
your will and to share our gifts with  
our brothers and sisters.

May we be good stewards of all we have received  
and cooperate with you in building your kingdom  
of love and justice.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

## THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

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# The Lord loves a joyful giver

GIVE

By Laurie Stiegelmeier

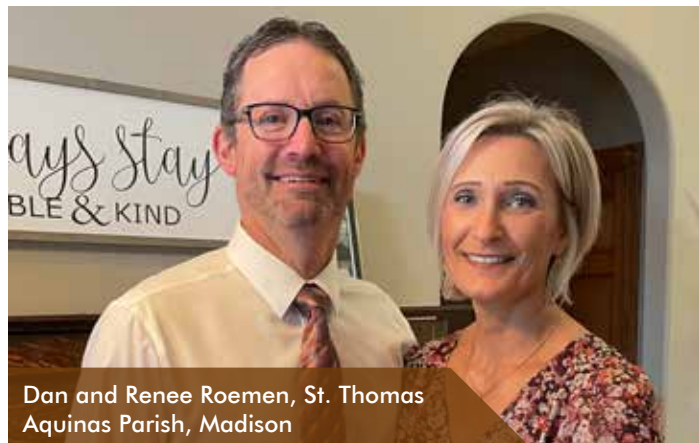
**W**e can't outdo God in generosity.

St. Luke writes of this in chapter six, verse 38:

*"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."*

However, that's not why we give of our time, talent and treasure. In fact, the thought of any reward is often totally blocked by thoughts of why we can't give. Sometimes, for a variety of reasons, we may want to be like the servant in Matthew 25:14-30, who buried his master's money rather than investing it and yielding an increase like the two good servants did.

But our Lord wants us to be generous as he is generous.



Dan and Renee Roemen, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Madison

## Generosity isn't easy

Dan and Renee Roemen, members of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Madison, each have different struggles in their desire to be good stewards. Dan's work doesn't allow him to be as generous with time as he'd like to be while Renee sometimes wonders if finances can be spared. But they both experience great joy in giving, and Dan said they are often "on the same page," thinking of the same need at the same time.

Renee shared a time when they were both aware of a need in their parish before going to Mass, and it happened that their priest spoke of it in his homily.

"After communion, Dan leaned over and said, 'we need to do this.' It was the timing—we both knew it was right," Renee said. "For us a key part of giving is letting go of the struggle. We felt called and making the decision brought us peace. We didn't miss what we gave, and it led us to do even more. We now don't hesitate to give."

"We've been blessed, so I know I need to give back. I know in my heart it's the right thing to do," Dan said. "We need to be like kids at Christmas when they give gifts. They have all the joy. There's no joy in getting but there's tons of joy in giving. We need to be more childlike."

## Your gift matters

Carol Smith of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Groton says busyness is an obvious obstacle in giving our time and talent.

"Other struggles would be feelings of inadequacy," Carol said. "I

have often thought, ‘there are so many other people who would do this job better or more efficiently.’ Maybe God isn’t looking for the best person or the most talented person for the job, but the *right* person. And maybe God wants to teach me something.”

This was true when she began teaching religious education classes out of a sense of obligation rather than desire.

“Our oldest child was starting CCD and I knew we would have children in the ‘system’ for a long time, so I felt obligated to teach,” Carol said. “I felt totally out of my comfort zone, but it turned into such a blessing. I learned so much about the faith by teaching CCD. Teaching CCD opened discussions at our dinner table because I knew what our children were doing in CCD and could ask them questions; that was a great opportunity to reinforce teachings.

“I prayed a lot before class because of my comfort zone,” she continued. “My eyes were opened to the fact that our children cannot be taught the faith in an hour a week—we as parents must be the teachers of the faith. I also realized the value of bringing our children to Mass every Sunday; what is taught in religious education does not make sense unless your child is familiar with the Mass.”

Carol’s husband, Steve, had similar reservations when Carol begged him to serve.

“She would say, ‘We need more dads,’ adding that boys especially need a male presence in the classroom,” Steve said. “My wife is a convert to the faith and yet she taught first reconciliation and first Holy Communion for 10 years at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. But *I* couldn’t teach CCD and I had all the usual excuses: I was too busy, I didn’t know my faith well enough, I’m not comfortable teaching or sharing my faith in front of a class. I convinced myself I was too busy until the year they didn’t have a sixth-grade teacher, and I finally, and reluctantly, said ‘yes.’ *And then, inexplicably, I had the time.*”

Dan had a similar experience when he gave despite debt making it an inopportune time. He marvels that giving in a time of stress over debt brought them through the year financially stronger than ever.

“In the Bible, St. Paul tells us it is more blessed to give than to receive. That is so true,” Renee said. “The joy you receive is indescribable. Give with an open heart and you realize you don’t miss what you give.” She shared a line from the movie “It’s a Wonderful Life” that the only thing you take to heaven is what you give away.

## Generosity bears fruit

Steve’s initial “yes” to teaching CCD turned into three years and then, in partnership with Carol, eight years as confirmation teachers. Once he overcame his doubts, teaching became very rewarding. His faith grew and his knowledge of Scripture and Catholic Tradition increased while preparing for each lesson.

He grew in trust as he prayed, “Jesus, I trust in you! Jesus, give me the words my students need to hear and may they be open to them.” His humility grew as he prayed, “Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief! It’s not about me. I don’t have all the answers or truths. Lord, help me plant some seeds of faith and then get out



Smith Family: Back row: Isaac, Erin, AnneMarie, Luke, Shane Van Diest (holding Augustine); Middle row: McKinsey (holding Josephine), Samuel, Steve, Carol, Alexis (holding Felix), Marah Van Diest; Front row: Gemma, Fulton, Cecilia

of your way.” And he found joy in thank-you notes from students and parents, and the honor of being asked by a student to be his confirmation sponsor.

The importance of immersing their own children in the Catholic faith led Carol and Steve to host Totus Tuus, D-Camp, Going Deeper and Lumen Christi missionaries—teams that were great additions to religious ed offered by their parish.

“Opening our home to missionaries has been very fruitful,” Carol said.

“Hosting Totus Tuus teams of two to four people in our home was at times trying, but what a joy getting to know these young missionaries,” Steve said. “Learning about their families, their faith experience and, as we got to know them better, some of their struggles.”

He believes hearing the missionaries’ experiences is what inspired their children to be Totus Tuus missionaries and D-Camp counselors.

## Giving leads to freedom

Dan looks to others for inspiration in stewardship. “I look at people who are generous with their gifts and they are all wealthy in some aspect—health, joy, family. When you freely give, you’re not smothered by your possessions, you’re not controlled by them,” he said.

But remembering the teaching that it is better to be praised in heaven than on earth, Dan is very careful to give anonymously. Renee adds that they don’t want recognition.

“We give to have the joy between us,” she said. “You can’t take it with you and a friend says, ‘it’s better to give with warm hands than cold hands.’”

Dan agreed. “The best advice I was ever given is to give while I’m alive so I can enjoy seeing the good it does.”

The Smiths and the Roemens are very united as husbands and wives in their philosophy of sharing the gifts they were given. They all speak continually of the joy that comes from it. Pope Francis tells us, “Joy is a grace and a gift of the Holy Spirit, not just positive emotions or feeling cheerful... To be full of joy is the experience of the highest consolation.”

We can’t outdo God in generosity—he always gives more.



LOOKING FOR IDEAS ON WAYS  
TO GIVE? READ THIS MONTH'S  
FEATURE ON THE NEXT PAGES



# We are One Faith, One Family

Seeking to unify under the diocesan vision

By Wendy Royston

**B**ishop Donald DeGrood has spent his first two years as bishop working to move the faithful in the Diocese of Sioux Falls toward one goal, knowing that the faithful have a major role to play, especially through the Catholic Family Sharing Appeal.

“Through my prayer, I sense that God desires for everyone in our diocese to focus on being *Lifelong Catholic Missionary Disciples Through God’s Love*,” Bishop DeGrood said. “I also sense his desire for us all, clergy, religious and lay, to experience his love by living healthy, happy and holy lives so that we might humanly flourish and then receive God’s grace even more to spiritually flourish.”

The Catholic Family Sharing Appeal (CFSA) makes possible many of the direct programs and support programs for individuals and parishes. This year we’ll explore three recipients who are critical to a missionary Church in a secular world.

## Vocations/Seminarians

CFSA sponsors much of the diocese’s clergy formation efforts, but the recent development of a propaedeutic (or pre-study) year adds a new opportunity for support.

“Seminary ... is a busy and involved time,” Father Scott Traynor, vicar for lay and clergy formation, said, and this preparatory period allows time to establish a grounding in daily prayer, confidence in reading and understanding Scripture, and familiarity with the basic foundational teachings of the Church.

Father Traynor said this extra year before seminary is similar to the novitiate year that religious sisters spend becoming acquainted with their intended order before taking their vows. It is an opportunity for the man to not only learn more about the faith, but also to learn more about himself.

“(These) are kind of the formational elements of the propaedeutic period,” Father Traynor said, adding that “if there’s any good human growth that the man needs to mature in so that he can receive seminary formation eventually more fruitfully, we want to know what those things are up front. Just like in marriage, if there are any issues ... you want those things to come to light



Father Scott Traynor, vicar for lay and clergy for the diocese

during the time of preparation ... so that, with time and grace, some greater healing and freedom can be there.”

The idea comes from the knowledge that the Church is in an apostolic age, during which the teachings of the Church are not embedded into secular life.

“We don’t live in a culture now where we can just assume that (a man) is familiar with Scripture, knows how to pray, and has a basic orientation to the foundational teachings of the Church at the catechism-level understanding,” Father Traynor said. “It is important that they not only know the academic subjects of philosophy and theology ... but (also) to benefit from a Catholic vision of the human person—what we call human growth counseling—where he can learn how to flourish in (particular) areas of his life ... in which he is maybe not flourishing quite as God would desire.”

Father Traynor said that, while providing for this experience does come at a cost, it is worth the investment.

“It really focuses us on being good stewards of the generosity of the people who support CFSA and the formation of their future



priests,” he said. “Every parish is (impacted by) the outcome of what we do in priestly formation, so it is truly a diocesan effort. We all have a collective interest in doing the best job of forming our future priests, because they are the people who will be baptizing our children and anointing us when we are sick and witnessing our marriages and burying our beloved dead.”

## Catholic Family Services

In keeping with Bishop DeGrood’s desire for healthy, happy and holy people throughout the diocese, Catholic Family Services is embarking on a new journey to help lay people and clergy flourish in their lives, whether they’re in a time of crisis, transition or just seeking to grow more deeply into who God has called them to be.

Emily Leedom, executive director, says they are placing a greater emphasis on the social, emotional and relational needs of

“people in the pews.”

“We’re addressing what it means to be human and those challenges that each of us has to face as we transition through family dynamics, (or) through past hurts or wounds so that people can take the next step in their journey,” Emily said.

Catholic Family Services wants to help people address the pressures often experienced from the wider society. That desire drives Catholic Family Services to integrate the best of the psychological sciences with an authentically Catholic vision of the human person, at the service of human flourishing.

“We want to assist [the laity] to be who God made them to be, to help address the obstacles that are keeping them bound from being who they were created to be, so that they can be sent into the world and be fruitful in the way that God desires them to be fruitful,” Emily said.

Recently, a Catholic Family Services client shared her family’s



Emily Leedom, executive director of Catholic Family Services

grief journey in an effort to help others navigate their first Christmas with an empty seat at the table.

Amber Kolousek made the first call to the agency at the urging of her pastor shortly after she and her husband, Scott Kolousek, lost their son, Jacob, in a farm accident in 2015. She spoke of those early days at a Catholic Family Services event, “He is Stable: A Night for Grieving Hearts to Find Rest in His Peace,” at St. Therese Parish in Sioux Falls this past December.

“I kept feeling like I was walking in somebody else’s nightmare,” Amber told the crowd. “I prayed that somebody would fix this, whether that was a person or God, I didn’t know. All I could think of was my husband and my other three kids and how I could help them deal with their grief. This was going to affect them for the rest of their lives.”

Although they live closer to Mitchell where a variety of secular counselors are available, Kolousek said the decision to utilize Catholic Family Services was easy.

“I didn’t want someone giving another angle on grief that we, as Catholics, don’t believe,” she said. “I didn’t want anyone telling my kids that Jacob was definitely in heaven. And I wasn’t in the frame of mind that I wanted to be screening a bunch of counselors. I just wanted to talk to someone who I knew could help.”

After a few months, the family felt equipped to continue their grief journey together, leaning on the Church for support.

Emily said Catholic Family Services desires to accompany more families like the Kolouseks through challenges and equip them to be the Church to others.

“Sometimes we think of counseling as being only for those who have a major mental health diagnosis, but that’s not solely what we’re about,” Emily said. “We see a lot of individuals who are just seeking growth or an outside perspective. ... The clients that we have who are getting the most robust, beautiful, well-rounded support are those who are in relationship with their priest, in relationship with their counselor and actively participating in the life of the Church. They will articulate to us ... that this is how wellness is supposed to look.”

In the last year, Emily said the organization has seen a 30 percent caseload increase, not to mention record numbers getting involved with programming.

“Most people have had a heightened experience of stress, fear, anxiety and overwhelm in the last two years ... because the world has felt really heavy,” she said. “We’ve seen an increase in the number of people who have said, ‘I just need some help navigating this so I can sleep at night,’ or ‘I just need some help navigating this because I feel myself increasingly tempted to numbify this experience with wine or food or pornography or whatever’—those things that we grasp at when we are feeling uprooted or anxious.”

Emily said funds from this year’s CFSA drive will, in part, help them add more staff, expand their programming and increase their capacity to be a resource to our schools and parishes. They plan to add programs to support hurting marriages, individuals experiencing same sex attraction and their families, and those struggling with pornography. Funds also help offset counseling costs for those who would not otherwise be able to receive the support they need.

Catholic Family Services continues to honor the legacy of the past while adapting to the needs of the day. Stay tuned to social media and the March Bishop’s Bulletin for more exciting changes coming to Catholic Family Services. Announcement coming February 11!

## Christ the King Campus Ministry

More than a decade ago, Father Kevin O’Dell sought to fill a void for campus ministry in Sioux Falls when he invited college students to a special Sunday evening Mass at Christ the King Parish. Two years ago, Bishop DeGrood showed his support of that effort when he assigned Father Tyler Mattson as the first official director of Christ the King Campus Ministry.

In 2021, the diocese, with the financial and spiritual assistance of Christ the King Parish, hired a full-time lay minister, Cody Fischer, to assist Father Mattson, who also pastors parishes in Tea and Parker, with the work he’d already unofficially been doing for a year. The two then turned an unused chapel at the church into a student lounge.

As many as 85 students from the University of Sioux Falls, Augustana University and Southeast Technical College, as well as some who live in the city while taking classes elsewhere, converge for adoration, confession and Mass on Sunday evenings, and roughly two-thirds return on Wednesdays for Bible studies and other activities.

“College is a difficult time for a person. There’s a lot of influences, and not all those influences are helpful to somebody’s Catholic faith,” Father Mattson said.

Approximately 85 percent of Catholic college freshmen stop practicing their faith prior to graduation, according to the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS), and the presence of a campus parish can improve that average. Currently, four Newman Centers serve the needs of college students in Brookings, Vermillion, Aberdeen and Madison. But, in Sioux Falls, where there are multiple smaller campuses, one off-site gathering place made sense.

“We really want to be the home for any college student in Sioux Falls,” said Cody, who is no stranger to campus ministry as a former FOCUS missionary. “I think, if you were to take any one



Father Tyler Mattson, director of Christ the King Campus Ministry in Sioux Falls, leading Bible study with students

[when returning to Mass in Webster], that pushes them to focus, too.”

Olivia attended her first Mass and her first Bible study the same week last semester. Now, the freshman brings her Protestant friends along and is the ministry’s new community chair, working to create community among the city’s college students, beyond Mass, adoration and Bible study.

“It’s really awesome to go somewhere and know there are people who are your age and who are stressed out and who have other things going on, but also want to make time in their life for Jesus,” she said.

In between activities at the church, Cody meets students on each campus, in the middle of their chaos. So far this school year, he has made 100 new contacts, including more than 50 Catholics, while networking over lunches, coffees and study breaks with students.

CFSA helps fund the activities of Christ the King Campus Ministry, including Cody’s salary and the various activities, retreats and volunteer opportunities throughout Sioux Falls. Although it may be difficult for some donors to see a need to sponsor a ministry specific to young people, Father Mattson pointed out that “today’s college students are tomorrow’s parishioners.”

“Those students are maybe not in your community anymore for their time at universities ... but leaving their hometown (doesn’t have to mean) leaving the practice of the Catholic faith. They still have those opportunities available to them,” Father Mattson said, adding that practicing their faith in college “actually can make their faith come alive in a new way.”

## Give generously

“Catholic Family Sharing Appeal allows us to come together as a family to support each other not only in challenges, but also as each of us journeys on our way to heaven. As a family, God calls us to share those gifts and blessings with others,” Bishop DeGrood says. “I ask you to prayerfully consider how God is asking you to support the mission and vision of the Church for eastern South Dakota.”

of those campuses and said, ‘Here are the Catholics from this campus,’ I don’t think you would have the gusto that we have.”

And Father Mattson says there are benefits to housing the ministry inside of a flourishing city parish. Christ the King Campus Ministry is “really unique from a Newman Center. They have the community with the college students, but they’re also always exposed to the wisdom of older parishioners, and they get to see good families and good married couples. One of the coolest parts that I’ve seen is the relationship between the students and the parish,” he said. “Some parishioners are interceding and praying for students and for events that we have going on,” while others are waiting for the next call to feed the students.

Olivia Dorsett, Webster native and student at Augustana University, said the ministry helps her live the Catholic faith she loves while pursuing her education on a Protestant campus.

“Doing a Bible study every week helps you learn how to read and better understand Scripture that’s read during Mass,” Olivia said. “When I can understand it better, I’m able to focus better. And I have little brothers, so when they can see me focusing



Olivia Dorsett, Augustana University student from Webster

# One Faith, One Family

## Ministries

*Ministries are direct programs for lay people and parishes in the diocese.*

### Evangelization/discipleship

- Discipleship support for youth and adults
- Sacramental preparation support programs—baptism, Eucharist, confirmation, marriage
- Religious education support
- Resources for enhancement of family life
- Special needs
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd training
- Mastermind groups—small group program for parish catechetical leaders
- School of Missionary Discipleship—formation program for adult lay missionary discipleship
- Discipleship camps
- Youth conferences
- Going Deeper and other retreats
- Lumen Christi—children and youth program
- Respect Life activities
- Marriage enrichment tools
- Supporting vocations discernment initiatives

### Catholic Family Services

- Grief groups and other loss support programs
- Family and individual counseling
- Project Rachel—healing for post abortion
- Single day programs in parishes around the diocese

### Communications

- The Bishop's Bulletin monthly to every household
- Sunday TV Mass broadcast and streamed each week
- Audio/video production including weekly radio programs, podcasts and videos
- Diocesan website—[www.sfcatholic.org](http://www.sfcatholic.org)
- Social media communicating the Good News

### Catholic education/Newman Centers

- Newman Centers and campus ministry in five locations
- Office of Catholic Schools: supporting 22 Catholic schools on behalf of 27 parishes in 15 communities in the diocese

### Specialized ministry services

- Stewardship
- Marriage Tribunal
- Chaplaincy support for hospitals, prisons and other human service facilities

### Outreach ministries

- Marriage, family and respect life initiatives
- Catholic outreach beyond the diocese (World Missions collection for example)

*As well as coordinated support for these separate works:*

- Support of feeding and shelter ministries serving people from across the diocese
- Assistance and support to military families (such as St. Raphael Fund)
- Mother Teresa Fund supporting pregnant women
- St. Joseph Catholic Housing with more than 1,000 units around the diocese

### Government relations

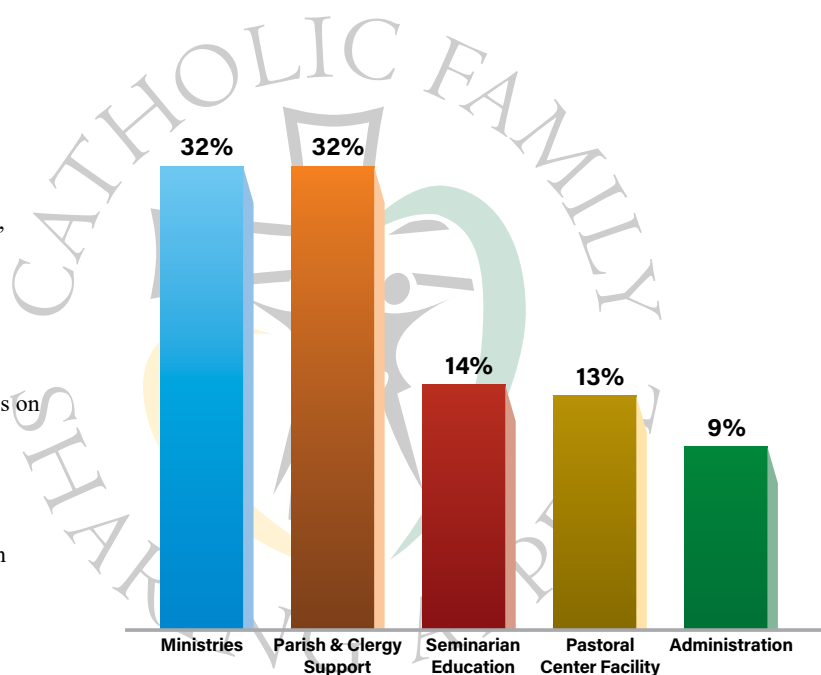
- South Dakota Catholic Conference

## Parish and Clergy Support Services

- Technology and ParishSOFT support
- Personnel resources through benefits administration, human resource consulting, safe environment programs and more
- Financial administrative services, including parish accounting and census and risk management
- The Bishop's ministry, including parish and school visits and confirmations
- Cemeteries
- Priest continuing education and sabbaticals
- Priest/religious retirement
- Support for pastoral and finance councils, other parish structural needs

## Seminarian Education

- Vocations recruitment and promotion
- Opportunities for permanent diaconate training and formation
- Seminarian education and formation



## Support for Diocesan Budget

Catholic Family Sharing Appeal	66%
Endowments	15%
Administrative & Service Income	12%
Donations & Other	7%

HEALTHY HAPPY HOLY

# 2022 Parish Share

▼ CITY	PARISH	PLEDGE
Aberdeen	Sacred Heart Parish	\$127,900
Aberdeen - SM	St. Mary Parish	\$95,000
Alexandria	St. Mary of Mercy Parish	\$20,900
Arlington	St. John Parish	\$8,600
Armour	St. Paul the Apostle Parish	\$25,300
Artesian	St. Charles Parish	\$3,300
Beresford	St. Teresa of Avila Parish	\$21,400
Big Bend	St. Catherine Parish	\$250
Big Stone City	St. Charles Parish	\$12,800
Bowdle	St. AugSt.ine Parish	\$14,000
Brandon	Risen Savior Parish	\$98,700
Bridgewater	St. Stephen Parish	\$9,700
Britton	St. John de Britto Parish	\$18,300
Brookings	St. Thomas More Parish	\$141,900
Bryant	St. Mary Parish	\$6,400
Canton	St. Dominic Parish	\$21,400
Centerville	Good Shepherd Parish	\$9,400
Chamberlain	St. James Parish	\$31,900
Clark	St. Michael Parish	\$16,200
Clear Lake	St. Mary	\$24,900
Colman	St. Peter Parish	\$19,200
Dakota Dunes	St. Teresa of Calcutta	\$32,100
Dante	Assumption Parish	\$15,700
Dell Rapids	St. Mary Parish	\$67,400
DeSmet	St. Thomas Aquinas Parish	\$17,900
Dimock	SS Peter & Paul Parish	\$19,200
Eden	Sacred Heart Parish	\$18,200
Elk Point	St. Joseph Parish	\$31,900
Elkton	Our Lady of Good Counsel	\$23,500
Emery	St. Martin Parish	\$14,100
Epiphany	Parish of the Epiphany	\$11,000
Estelline	St. Francis de Sales Parish	\$19,800
Eureka	St. Joseph Parish	\$8,900
Faulton	St. Thomas the Apostle Parish	\$31,200
Flandreau	SS Simon & Jude Parish	\$34,500
Florence	Blessed Sacrament Parish	\$12,100
Fort Thompson	St. Joseph Parish	\$750
Garretson	St. Rose of Lima Parish	\$23,100
Geddes	St. Ann Parish	\$11,700
Gettysburg	Sacred Heart Parish	\$32,200
Grenville	St. Joseph Parish	\$10,300
Groton	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	\$24,300
Harrisburg	St. John Paul II	\$30,000
Hartford	St. George Parish	\$61,900
Henry	St. Henry Parish	\$8,200
Herreid	St. Michael Parish	\$15,200
Highmore	St. Mary Parish	\$13,500
Hoven	St. Anthony Parish	\$34,200
Howard	St. Agatha Parish	\$20,700
Humboldt	St. Ann Parish	\$27,000
Huntimer	St. Joseph the Workman Parish	\$23,600
Huron	Holy Trinity	\$58,200
Idylwilde	St. Boniface Parish	\$11,500
Ipswich	Holy Cross Parish	\$31,600
Jefferson	St. Peter Parish	\$36,200
Kimball	St. Margaret Parish	\$37,800
Kranzburg	Holy Rosary Parish	\$29,900
Lake Andes	St. Mark Parish	\$11,200
Lennox	St. Magdalen Parish	\$15,900

▼ CITY	PARISH	PLEDGE
Leola	Our Lady of Perpetual Help	\$8,600
Lesterville	St. John the Baptist Parish	\$10,300
Madison	St. Thomas Aquinas Parish	\$61,400
Marty	St. Paul Parish	\$2,100
Mellette	All Saints Parish	\$14,800
Milbank	St. Lawrence Parish	\$57,800
Miller	St. Ann Parish	\$33,800
Mitchell - HF	Holy Family Parish	\$119,000
Mitchell - HS	Holy Spirit Parish	\$49,000
Mobridge	St. Joseph Parish	\$37,200
Montrose	St. Patrick Parish	\$33,000
Onida	St. Pius X Parish	\$15,600
Parker	St. Christina Parish	\$24,300
Parkston	Sacred Heart Parish	\$44,000
Pierre	SS Peter & Paul Parish	\$85,000
Plankinton	St. John Parish	\$16,900
Platte	St. Peter Parish	\$16,500
Polo	St. Liborius Parish	\$9,500
Ramona	St. William Parish	\$9,400
Redfield	St. Bernard Parish	\$44,000
Reville	Annunciation Parish	\$6,800
Roscoe	St. Thomas Parish	\$14,300
Rosholt	St. John the Baptist Parish	\$16,300
Salem	St. Mary Parish	\$39,000
Scotland	St. George Parish	\$14,000
Selby	St. Anthony Parish	\$10,800
Sioux Falls	Cathedral of St. Joseph	\$110,000
Sioux Falls	Holy Spirit Parish	\$254,500
Sioux Falls	St. Michael Parish	\$184,000
Sioux Falls	Christ the King Parish	\$84,200
Sioux Falls	St. Katharine Drexel	\$99,000
Sioux Falls	St. Lambert Parish	\$113,000
Sioux Falls	St. Mary Parish	\$146,000
Sioux Falls	St. Therese Parish	\$57,200
Sioux Falls - OLG	Our Lady of Guadalupe	\$9,400
Sisseton	St. Peter Parish	\$31,000
Sisseton - SKT	St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish	\$1,550
Springfield	St. Vincent Parish	\$7,000
Stephan	Immaculate Conception Parish	\$1,250
Stickney	St. Mary Parish	\$6,900
Tabor	St. Wenceslaus Parish	\$24,700
Tea	St. Nicholas Parish	\$51,600
Turton	St. Joseph Parish	\$14,300
Tyndall	St. Leo Parish	\$28,300
Vermillion	St. Agnes Parish	\$44,000
Wagner	St. John the Baptist Parish	\$32,500
Wakonda	St. Patrick Parish	\$10,300
Watertown	Holy Name Parish	\$104,000
Watertown	Immaculate Conception Parish	\$95,000
Waubay	Immaculate Conception Parish	\$9,000
Webster	Christ the King Parish	\$33,200
Wessington Springs	St. Joseph Parish	\$13,100
Westport	Sacred Heart Parish	\$9,000
White	St. Paul Parish	\$6,500
White Lake	St. Peter Parish	\$17,300
Woonsocket	St. Wilfrid Chrucl	\$15,300
Yankton	Sacred Heart Parish	\$109,000
Yankton	St. Benedict Parish	\$95,000

# Christ's love shines even in the darkness

By Elizabeth Morris



**I**n my life, I have taken only a single art class, and it was the best class I've ever taken. When I was a sophomore in college, I had the great privilege to study in Rome. There, we learned about ancient Roman history, philosophy and visual art, among other things.

Rome may seem like an incredibly tourist-filled city, and in a certain respect it is. However, there is a spiritual air about the city that you can feel and embrace, and it was in that atmosphere of holiness, history and beauty that the Lord planted a seed that would blossom and bear fruit in my life many years later.

In our art class, our professor taught us about many artists, one being a man named Georges de La Tour, a French painter in the 17th century. His most famous technique was to have a single source of light in an otherwise completely dark scene. Although we saw only one painting by La Tour in our class, I remember coming across more of his works some time after and was struck by the drama and beauty of them.

One La Tour painting in particular stuck in the back of my mind and has stayed there ever since. That painting is "Magdalene with the Smoking Flame."

Eventually, as I began my life after college, I sat down with this painting and studied it, and I began asking the Lord to show me why he kept drawing me to this image. In this painting, we see Mary Magdalene sitting in a dark scene, late into the night, staring at a solitary candle on a small table next to her. On the table, we see with the candle a stack of books



and then a couple of the instruments of Christ's passion and death. She sits barefoot, with one hand on her face, eyes wide, looking into the light of the candle.

La Tour decided to show Mary Magdalene in an unstaged and somewhat lonely moment. Truly, though, this painting shows more than just Mary Magdalene praying alone. What we see instead with this painting is a moment of humility and poverty of spirit. We see Mary Magdalene in deep contemplation, in the darkness, and we are maybe questioning what she is doing alone so late in the day.

I think many of us have found ourselves awake and by ourselves at a dark time of the night and maybe felt a sense of sorrow, poverty of spirit or even fear. Mary Magdalene, while she is alone in the darkness, is choosing at this moment to remember Christ's death by looking at the cross on her table. Because of this, she is actually anything but alone. She is turning her thoughts into a prayer and this moment into a contemplation of Christ's great love, and the Lord is near to her.

I realized while studying this painting that after graduating from college, I had felt that sense of loneliness and confusion, and the darkness in my heart was heavy, but

Mary Magdalene in this painting showed me what hope really looks like.

In a moment where our circumstances may feel grim and dark, Christ shines like the candle in this painting. We may feel the deep darkness around us, whether physically, mentally, or spiritually, but when we fix our eyes on Christ as the source of our hope, we have no need to fear the darkness of the world. He has won us back from sin and darkness by the illumination of his love.

The darkness we feel is an invitation to ask the Lord to enter into our life in a new and life-giving way. With that, we can begin to understand the immeasurable love Christ has for us, and the hope we place in goodness and light becomes based in that great love Jesus has for us and not in the passing things of this world.

May we, like Mary Magdalene, not be afraid of darkness, sorrow, grief, pain or loneliness, but take the heaviness we feel to Jesus in prayer, and may we always remember that Christ has suffered all before us and that he has triumphed over death and darkness with the light of his love.

Though we may feel alone sometimes, we are never truly alone with the love of Christ.

# Father Gregory Tschakert

This month we get to know Father Gregory Tschakert, judicial vicar for the diocese. He was ordained on May 22, 1982, and is currently the pastor at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Groton, and St. Joseph, Turton. He grew up in Florence and has an older brother and three younger sisters. Most of his relatives are farmers. His parents both came from large families, so Father Tschakert has many cousins along with many nieces and nephews, and grand nieces and nephews.

## Q How did you get your call to the priesthood?

Several people suggested that I should enter the seminary. The priesthood did have a certain appeal to me, so I went to the seminary with the intention of discernment. I enjoyed the seminary immensely. I was probably a priest for many years before I actually had the conviction that I had received a call. Being a priest has been a tremendously satisfying way of life for almost 40 years. If I hadn't been called, I think it would have been intolerable.

## Q What did you do before the priesthood?

I earned a degree in secondary education at Northern State University and then taught high school English and speech for four years. I also completed my Master's in educational counseling before I enrolled at the St. Paul Seminary.

## Q Is there a particular part of Catholicism that really fascinates you?

I like almost everything about being Catholic. Celebrating the Mass and all the sacraments has been the highlight of most of my days. I appreciate the mystery of the sacraments by which God makes himself present to his people.

## Q Who was most influential in your life?

Throughout my life there have been different people who influenced me at different times. When I take the time to listen to other people and to reflect on their experiences and insights, I almost always come away richer for the experience. In each parish where I've served, there has been a core of people

whom I have trusted and relied upon. I was also blessed from early on by a number of experienced pastors who I really admired. Some of them became good friends. Each of them ministered in their unique way, and sometimes quite different from each other, but with a great love for the Church and the people.

## Q What's your favorite part of being a priest?

I have always appreciated celebrating the sacraments, but several times I was appointed to high school teaching, which I really enjoyed, too. In recent years, I have really appreciated adult education and formation. I have had a great variety of assignments over the past 40 years: small and big parishes, administration, and schools. Some I requested, and some I accepted, and they were all a blessing to me. I hope they were a blessing to those I served.

## Q Who is your go-to saint? Why?

One of the saints whom I greatly admire and often quote is St. Augustine. After a lifetime of searching, St. Augustine summarized, "Our hearts were made for you O Lord, and they will be restless until they rest in you." He is one of the Church Fathers who assured that the Catholic Church would have very broad arms to embrace a huge variety of members. We are saved by grace, so in the Church we will always have both pacers and plodders, but once we are baptized, the Church never takes the baptism back and never ceases to care for every member, even those who stumble.

## Q What do you do in your spare time?

From my childhood, I've almost always been reading a book or two, both fiction and nonfiction. I like to garden,

and since my life has slowed down with a lighter workload, I walk a great deal. I also like to play cards.

## Q What is something most people don't know about you?

I'm pretty transparent, so I think people often know more about me than I set out to reveal. What you see is what you get.

## Q How can your parishioners and people of the diocese best help you be a great priest?

I think it was St. Augustine who said good sheep give rise to good shepherds. I can't always fulfill every need someone expresses, but it's always helpful if parishioners tell me what they need. And of course, I need the witness of faithful members of the Church who can encourage me in my journey.

## Q If you could have supper with anyone from history (besides Jesus), who would it be and why?

I would really like to meet St. Pope John XXIII. He had vast experience before he was chosen to be the Holy Father and was well acquainted with the world. Throughout his life, he was an avid observer of the many sides of life, including war and social revolution, yet he remained hopeful. He had confidence in the Holy Spirit to bring about a new springtime in the life of the Church and the world.

Curious about a particular religious vocation? Visit [sfcatholic.org/vocations](http://sfcatholic.org/vocations) to learn more about discerning God's call for your life.



# PONTIFICAL ALTAR SERVERS

elevate the experience of Mass

*By Marcus Ashlock*

**I**t goes without saying, the experiences of our lives, both positive and negative, shape us into the people we become over that lifetime. Most of us know at least one anecdote of a child wanting to be a doctor, fireman, teacher, lawyer, policeman or even a priest due to the influence of a pivotal moment in his or her youth.

The child can recall with vibrant clarity the moment the inspiration occurred; however, if you were to interview the adult about the memory, they may not remember it as significant. As adults, it's important to keep in mind that a kind word or a moment of encouraging motivation can mold a pliable heart and soul into the vocation of a child's life.

## Parish and family are keys

As Catholics, we know the strength of faith and family when they merge effectively, working together in support of one another in the homes in which we raise our children and the faith they see through practice of daily and weekly interaction with the Church and its congregation.

These experiences can mean the difference in helping youth build an unbreakable love of their faith or letting the world pull them away one day. Lifelong missionary discipleship can begin at a young age, even when it is not the intention. Watching and participating in parish programs and activities can begin a path of deepened faith, for both participant and observer.

**John Tibbetts, pontifical server for the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls**

John Tibbetts, 15-year-old son of Chris and Jennifer Tibbetts of St. Lambert Parish in Sioux Falls, has been an altar server for nine years and a pontifical altar server for seven. As a pontifical altar server, he is one of the 20 servers for Bishop DeGrood at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Sioux Falls.

According to John, the servers take their role at Mass with Bishop DeGrood seriously and practice to ensure all their actions and movements are reverent, allowing parishioners to keep their focus on the altar and helping the bishop as he performs the sacrifice of the Mass.

“We make their job easier so they can focus on praying and really directing everyone’s focus to Jesus,” John said. “It can be stressful if something doesn’t go right and you want it to be good and look good, but Bishop DeGrood is very understanding and relaxed, knowing how to calm us down, taking off the pressure.”

## Making Mass more glorious

Not all pontifical servers can assist at every Mass, but when many are in attendance, the pontifical serving group will add them to enhance the parishioner’s experience through longer processions, incense or candle bearers for the gifts.

“We really can make the Mass so much more glorious,” John said. “I feel like when we have enough servers, we can use incense or have so much longer of a procession, bringing all that attention and glory to God.”

One never knows who will be attending Mass: a fallen Catholic on their way back to the Church, a non-Christian who is attending with a friend, or a potential convert who is considering coming home to Catholicism. The altar servers work hard to limit distractions so people can focus more on the importance of the Mass.

“We can enhance the Mass in its different forms, just adding to it and making it more reverent,” John said. “It’s that missionary part of ours, that someone might see the glory of the Mass with all of these beautiful references to the sacrament and people might be drawn closer and want to look into their faith more.”



## Blessed to serve

According to John, he followed his five brothers in becoming an altar server. He watched them participate as pontifical altar servers, and when there was an opening, he was selected to learn how to help the bishop during his Mass. This experience through elementary and high school has deepened his faith by watching priests and the bishop so closely.

“It increased my love for the sacrament; it’s really a blessing to be that close and to be a part of it,” John said. “I’ve started listening more to the words and the deepness, especially the Eucharistic prayer, and that’s really made me love my faith and the sacrament so much more. You really see it so much closer and deeper when you’re an altar server, the way the priests are attached to and the way they love the sacrament.”

Though the words “missionary discipleship” may invoke images of Christians helping those in need in third-world countries, it can be as simple as the local missionary work of an altar server committing himself to perfection for the glory of God. Working together to provide the parishioner an experience with the Eucharist, the source and summit of our faith, a moment so reverent they begin to truly see the real presence of Jesus.

These moments are created by a willingness to volunteer and to give oneself with a servant’s heart in charity. You, too, may start a path of lifelong missionary discipleship, allowing others to see the love of Jesus when it is least expected.



**Interested in your child being an altar server?**  
Have a conversation with your parish priest on how to get them started in your parish.

# Have you taken the survey yet? Please do!

Do you have thoughts about great ways to share the love of God with the people around you? Whether they're members of your family, your friends, your parish or your community, everyone needs more Jesus!

We want to hear your thoughts! We also want to know some of your thoughts on how to grow the Church and what is important to your parish and family.

As part of the Synod on Synodality currently underway in the Church around the world, we've created a survey to collect those thoughts. If you don't know what the Synod on Synodality is, you can revisit the December 2021 issue of the Bishop's Bulletin, page 10.

As part of the synod, Pope Francis has asked every bishop to start a conversation in their diocese. The survey creates a way



for our diocese to look at the three main areas of interest put forth by this synod: communion, participation and mission. How do we foster greater **communion** in the Church, and how do we increase **participation** so people are engaged in the **mission** of the Church.

Father Scott Traynor, vicar for lay and clergy formation for the diocese, has been leading the synod effort here. He says the

survey focuses on the theme of mission and groups the questions around the diocesan vision of *Lifelong Catholic Missionary Discipleship Through God's Love*.

We want to learn "what are some clear priorities of the many things that could be done that would make the most positive impact for advancing that mission from where we are right now?" he said.

Father Traynor says an additional hope is that engaging with the survey process will be a powerful encounter for people and will give rise to many conversations among families, friends, parishes and across the diocese.

To take the survey, visit [www.sfcatholic.org/synod](http://www.sfcatholic.org/synod). You can answer any or all questions, and the survey is available now until the end of February.

**This Year, Make Protecting Your Family the First Resolution You Keep.**



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# How do I actively participate in the Mass?



*You've mentioned in past columns that none of us are supposed to be merely spectators at Mass, but instead we're all called to actively participate in the Mass. Can you explain this more?*



I'd be happy to! This idea was one of the central points that the Second Vatican Council made about the Mass, and it's definitely worth addressing in greater detail. I'd like to start by giving a bit of that history from Vatican II.

For many Catholics, the primary effects of the Second Vatican Council held in the early 1960s were in regard to the Mass, because those effects were the most visible for the typical Catholic. The Council had much more to say to Catholics and to the world than just its teachings on the Mass, but those teachings and how they were implemented after the Council were the most obvious to many.

One of the most central concerns of the Council regarding the Mass related to our participation in it. Vatican II emphasized what the Church has always taught and what I mentioned in that previous column: we are all called to be active participants in the Mass.

Here's the key passage from one of the most important documents of the Council, the "Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy": "Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that *full, conscious, and active participation* in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as 'a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people' (1 Pet. 2:9; cf. 2:4-5), is their right and duty by reason of their baptism" (paragraph 14, emphasis added).

This means when we attend Mass, none of us are meant to be mere spectators ... none of us. As Vatican II teaches, by virtue of our baptism we each participate in the "royal priesthood" of the Church. No, we are not priests in the *ordained* sense, but we are priests in the *baptismal* sense, and that empowers us to *actively partici-*

*pate* in the Mass. To explain this further I'd like to return to the analogy that I used last fall: football.

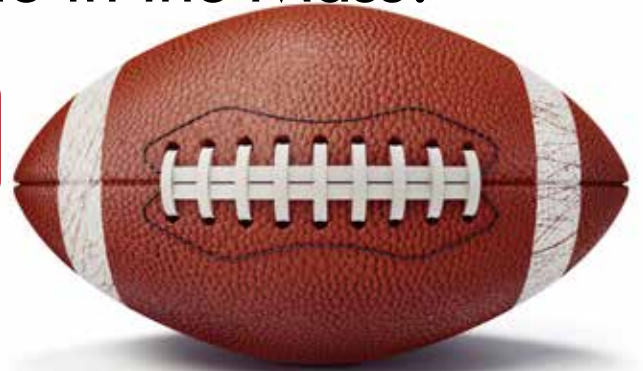
If it's February, it's Super Bowl time. Think about a professional football game. If the Mass were a football game, who would the congregation be? Many of us might be inclined to think the people are like the fans in the stadium, but that's not the case. In fact, we are on the field! And that's not just because we can be lectors, ushers or sacristans. Everyone who comes to Mass is meant to be "on the field" or "in the game."

It's true that, just like a football team, there are different roles and responsibilities for those on the field, but nonetheless, everyone on the field is actively participating in the game.

What the bishops of the Church at Vatican II desired—and what the bishops of the Church today continue to desire—is that everyone who comes to Mass be engaged in both body and soul with the prayers of the Mass. Active participation means, in a real sense, "active praying." We are all called to attentively participate in the prayers of the Mass, whether it be the responses we make or the prayers the priest is saying, which we silently make our own.

Even if—or perhaps, especially if—we have no liturgical ministry to participate in during Mass, we are called to unite ourselves to what is happening. Why? Because it is only by actively, attentively praying the Mass that we are able to bear the fruit of the graces that we receive at Mass.

In the Mass, God pours his love, his life, his grace out upon us, to the point that we really and truly receive him in Holy



Communion. Grace is given to us in the Mass. However, that grace will bear fruit in us to a greater or lesser extent, an extent that depends upon the degree to which we pray the Mass. The more we actively pray the Mass, the more the grace God gives us will bear fruit in our lives.

Again, this is a call made to *everyone* at Mass, not just the lectors, servers, ushers, etc. This is where the language has often been misunderstood: to be an active participant doesn't mean to be playing a ministerial role at Mass, as if those in the pews are merely passive participants or spectators. In fact, this is confirmed when you look at the official Latin phrase used at Vatican II: it's "participatio actus," which is best translated "actual participation." So, *everyone* is called to *active* or *actual* participation in the Mass, because active or actual participation means, as noted above, actively or actually praying the Mass.

So, as we continue in this new year, let us ask the Lord to give us the grace to renew our participation in the Mass and seek to continually deepen our "active praying" of the Holy Eucharist.

Be sure to check out the additional resources at [sfcatholic.org/answer](http://sfcatholic.org/answer).

If you have a question you need an answer to, email [rkrantz@sfcatholic.org](mailto:rkrantz@sfcatholic.org).

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





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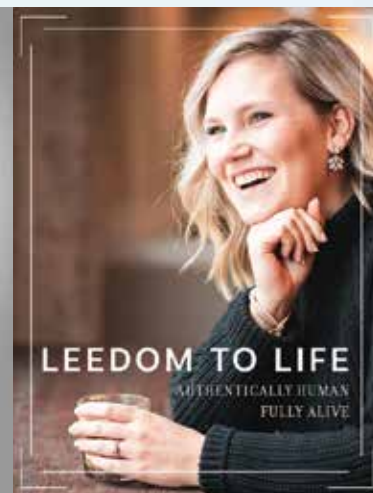
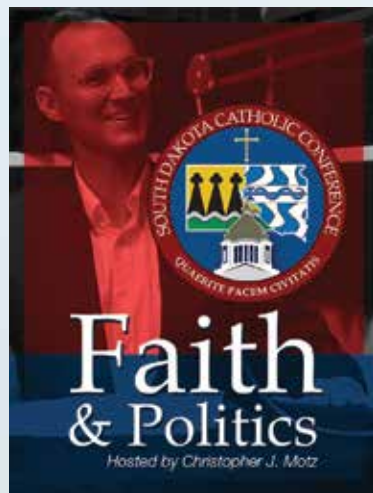
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ABERDEEN – Jason and Tammy Artz celebrated their 25th anniversary on January 17. They have 10 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.



ABERDEEN – Randy and Angelina Crawford celebrated their 50th anniversary on January 8. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.



MADISON – Ron and Ruth McKinstry will celebrate their 25th anniversary on February 20. They have 6 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish.



MITCHELL – Bob and Jan Auch will celebrate their 50th anniversary on February 5. They have 4 children, 8 grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



MITCHELL – Delbert and Kathy Northrup will celebrate their 60th anniversary on February 21. They have 6 children (2 deceased), 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



MITCHELL – David and Nancy Knippling will celebrate their 50th anniversary on February 12. They have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



MONTROSE – Mike and Marlys Bartmann will celebrate their 50th anniversary on February 5. They have 3 children, 11 grandchildren and are members of St. Patrick Parish.



PLATTE – Arlo and Sandy Nelson will celebrate their 55th anniversary on February 5. They have 5 children, 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Peter Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Jerry and Karen Noonan celebrated their 60th anniversary on January 27. They have 3 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of Cathedral of Saint Joseph Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – James and Phyllis Fiegen celebrated their 60th anniversary on January 13. They have 4 children, 9 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Ron and Joann Beaner will celebrate their 50th anniversary on February 12. They have 4 children, 12 grandchildren and are members of Christ the King Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Richard and Donna Hansen will celebrate their 70th anniversary on February 24. They have 5 children, 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Lambert Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Stan and Peggy Siegfried will celebrate their 50th anniversary on February 12. They have 4 children, 8 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



YANKTON – Robert and Darlene Kolda will celebrate their 60th anniversary on February 10. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild and are members of Sacred Heart 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 **February 14** for inclusion in the March 2022 edition to:

The Bishop's Bulletin  
523 North Duluth Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
or e-mail to: [bwingen@sfcatholic.org](mailto:bwingen@sfcatholic.org).

# Lenten regulations for a repentant season

Lent begins a bit later this year with Ash Wednesday falling on March 2. To ensure you can prepare ahead for this penitential season, we're including the regulations for Lent in this February edition of the Bishop's Bulletin.

The Christian faithful are obliged to do penance through prayer, fasting, abstinence and by performing works of piety and charity. All Fridays through the year, especially during Lent, are penitential days.

**Abstinence:** Everyone age 14 and older is to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday. Why meat? Over the centuries meat has been considered



to be a luxury for many people and has also been used for celebrations and feasts. At a penitential time of year, it makes sense to give up something used to mark joyful celebrations, especially on Friday, the day of our Lord's death.

**Fasting:** Everyone age 18 and up to their 59th birthday is to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This practice mirrors the 40 days Jesus fasted in the desert before he was

tempted by the devil. Think of it as a way to strengthen your spiritual muscles.

- Only one full meal is allowed on days of fasting. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's need, but together they should not equal another full meal.
- Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed.
- The obligation does not apply to those whose health or ability to work would be affected seriously.
- People in doubt about fasting or abstinence should consult their priest.

**Penitential acts:** Many Catholics practice the penitential act of "giving something up" or doing something "extra" during lent. This is not required or regulated by the Church but is a good practice. It helps the faithful prepare their hearts for Easter by connecting with the suffering of Jesus on the cross.

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[www.ogknights.org/admissions/belong](http://www.ogknights.org/admissions/belong)





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At your parish



Online



In the mail

### 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.



Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls  
523 N. Duluth Ave.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
webpage@sfcatholic.org

## UPCOMING RETREATS

### SILENT RETREATS

#### Men's Silent Retreats

February 17-20	September 15-18
March 17-20	November 17-20

#### Women's Silent Retreats

February 3-6	June 16-19
March 3-6	October 6-9
March 31-April 3	November 3-6

### 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.*

**February 15, 2022**  
**"The Greatest of These is Love: Cultivating the Virtue of Charity"**  
 - directed by Fr. Tony Klein

**March 22, 2022**  
**"Saying Yes to God with Mary"**  
 - directed by Fr. Jeff Norfolk

**April 19, 2022**  
**"Divine Merciful Love"**  
 - directed by Dr. Teri Kemmer and guest priest

**Couples Retreat**  
**November 11-13, 2022**  
 - directed by Ed & Jen Hogan

### SPECIAL RETREATS

#### Healing Retreats

**February 25-27, 2022**  
 - directed by Fr. Scott Traynor

**October 14-16, 2022**  
 - directed by Fr. Scott Traynor

123 Saint Raphael Circle, Irene, SD 57037  
 605-263-1040 | broomtree@sfcatholic.org

REGISTER FOR RETREATS ONLINE

**broom-tree.org**

# MUSTARD SEED

Catholic Store

### Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

### Location:

3709 S. Grange Ave  
 Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
 Just West of Costco

605-271-4055



## Morning Sundogs

Dawn Melius, parishioner at St. Thomas the Apostle in Faulkton, captured this stunning photo of the church in January. It depicts beautifully a cold winter on the prairie.

Dawn unexpectedly had to drive to Faulkton to drop off her son at school. She was amazed by the sundogs as they drove. As she passed the church, she knew she had to get a photo of the cold scene.

After dropping off her son, she drove back to the church, popped out of her car on that frigid morning, and captured this with her cell phone. She felt led by the Holy Spirit to take and share the photo.

“When you tell the Lord to lead you, he throws unexpected adventures your way,” Dawn said. “Be watching for blessings like this moment I had this morning! Looking forward to more unexpected blessings for the rest of the day.”



Visit [sfcatholic.org](http://sfcatholic.org)

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**Recitation of the rosary**

**Friday, February 4** - 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.

**Search for Christian Maturity Retreat**

**March 4-6** - Registration is now open for the March Search for Christian Maturity Retreat held at Holy Spirit Church in Sioux Falls. Search is a student-led, Roman Catholic retreat. The weekend features talks, skits, music and opportunities to encounter Christ in the sacraments. All high school, college-age students, and adults are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please contact us by phone 605-371-1478 or by email [Sioux-FallsSearch@gmail.com](mailto:Sioux-FallsSearch@gmail.com). Visit the Search website for more information and to register. [www.siouxfallssearch.org](http://www.siouxfallssearch.org).

**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](mailto:dcnwilliamradio@sfcatholic.org).

**Parish Dinners/Socials**

**March 4:** St. George Parish in Hartford is hosting a fish fry on Friday from 5-7:30 p.m. Located at the Parish Center at 408 S. Western Ave, Hartford. Free-will offering.

**Epiphany Parish supper plans changed**

The Church of Epiphany will not host their sausage supper this year. They will be making Epiphany sausage to sell. Sausage will be made on Saturday, March 12. More details to come. Follow Epiphany Sausage Supper on Facebook or contact Kelli Endorf at 605-999-3305 for more information.

**Pray at Planned Parenthood with the Jericho 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.

**Sacred Heart Monastery**

**February 4** - Online Lectio Divina, Fridays, February 4, 11, 18 and 25 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, Sr. Penny Bingham OSB at [pbingham@yanktonbenedictines.org](mailto:pbingham@yanktonbenedictines.org) 605-668-6023. Include your email address.

**February 19** - Monthly Contemplative Mornings. Meeting usually the third Saturday of the month, 9-11:15 a.m. Contact Sr. Doris at [doberembt@yanktonbenedictines.org](mailto:doberembt@yanktonbenedictines.org) 605-668-6022. [yanktonbenedictines.org/retreats-contemplative-mornings](http://yanktonbenedictines.org/retreats-contemplative-mornings).

**March 2** - Registration deadline for Online Lenten Scripture groups. The Wednesday morning group will discuss the Book of Exodus. Wednesday evening focuses on the Gospel of Luke. Go to [yanktonbenedictines.org/online-scripture-study-offerings](http://yanktonbenedictines.org/online-scripture-study-offerings) for more information.

**March 5** - Lenten Retreat. Mark your calendars for our online Lenten retreat, Saturday, 9:30 to noon. More information will be available at [yanktonbenedictines.org/online-lent-retreat](http://yanktonbenedictines.org/online-lent-retreat) or 605-668-6292 as plans develop.

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

**Spiritual direction** - Share your experience of God with an experienced companion-guide and intensify your spiritual journey. Scheduling is flexible, typically meeting once a month. Contact us to visit about online or in-person options at [BenedictinePeaceCtr@yanktonbenedictines.org](mailto:BenedictinePeaceCtr@yanktonbenedictines.org) or 605-668-6292.

**Catholic Family Services****Catholic Family Services Counseling**

Are you dealing with difficult events in your life? We have professional, caring counselors available to provide individual, marriage, and family counseling. Please call us at 605-988-3775 to schedule an appointment.

**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 February 1 from 6-8 p.m. Cost of the workbook is \$20 (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](mailto:cfs@sfcatholic.org). Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

**Surviving Divorce Program** - This six-week program begins February 1 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 [cfs@sfcatholic.org](mailto:cfs@sfcatholic.org). Scholarships are available.

**Camp Sydney** - Catholic Family Services will be offering a Grief Camp for youth and their families at Broom Tree Retreat Center beginning at 6 p.m. June 10 until 11 a.m. June 12. This two-day camp will include fun activities, discussion and support. The Grief Camp is offered free of charge. Registration for this camp will open on February 15. Call Catholic Family Services at 605-988-3775 for more information.



## JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS

7:30AM - 1510AM KMSD - MILBANK  
8:00AM - 1320AM KELO - SIOUX FALLS  
8:30AM - 94.5FM KGWD - SIOUX FALLS  
8:30AM - 91.3FM KSTJ - HARTFORD  
9:00AM - 88.9FM KSJP - ABERDEEN  
9:30AM - 930AM KSDN - ABERDEEN

OR ANYTIME ONLINE AT [SFCATHOLIC.ORG/CATHOLIC-VIEWS](http://SFCATHOLIC.ORG/CATHOLIC-VIEWS)



## THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls



# *Big Changes Ahead!*

*Coming February 11*



Catholic Family  
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