



Monthly publication for the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls

June 2021

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

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PASSING ON THE FAITH
THROUGH LOVE AND SERVICE

My first teachers of the faith: Mom and Dad



One of the fascinating things about little babies and young kids is how they learn to mimic others. It's something parents learn quickly as their children grow, and they also realize the impact parents have on their children's lives by their own example, especially their spiritual lives.

The exemplary impact and role of healthy, happy and holy moms and dads helps us through life to choose to be healthy, happy and holy ourselves. Their words, actions and shared motivations for all good things significantly impact our world and personal views for good or for bad. Of course we are all limited humans and make mistakes and even sin, and some things like physical and psychological health are beyond our control. And of course, we are dependent upon God's grace in order to be made holy if we choose to receive and respond to that grace.

We often think here of the Holy Family: Mary and Joseph raising Jesus as a child. Or more recently, perhaps, of Louis and Zelig Martin, parents of St. Therese of Lisieux, the first spouses to be canonized as a couple. But more personally, I am extremely blessed by my first and ongoing teachers of my Catholic faith: Mom and Dad.

By their shared reasons of wanting us to be healthy, happy and holy, they witnessed to their faith in many ways. And what they didn't feel equipped for, they relied upon the Church and Catholic schools to assist us in coming to know, love and serve God and others.

Sometimes it was their words and expectations that taught me. I suspect, though, that what was most impactful, though often overlooked as a kid, were their many prayers and hidden sacrifices so us five boys would love God and others through our Catholic faith.

As Dutch and German immigrant parents to the United States, my mom and dad passed on what they came to know and love: their Catholic faith from farm families. Catholic faith, family and farming were "in their blood," joyfully lived and passed on to us five boys. As the first and ongoing teachers of our awesome Catholic faith, my mom and dad lived and breathed Catholic faith in our homes, at church and our Catholic

school and neighborhood. What an incredible gift it was and is to me that my parents attended Sunday Mass (unless seriously ill), went to confession and shared in the full sacramental life of the Church.

They made great sacrifices in order to pay for a Catholic school education because they wanted us to be formed in a Catholic culture when we were off the farm. With very little money to begin their farming, they worked hard and spent little money on recreation or expensive things for the house or farm. They did so in order to use the money to support the Church, pay tuition for our Catholic education and try to set things up financially so those who wanted to farm could but also paid us for work on the farm when we were teenagers. That way we could use that money for post high school education and get a start in whatever vocation and occupation we would choose.

Thanks be to God there was no question whether or not we would go to Mass, confession, or receive the sacraments as kids. There was no question they would find a way to pay for Catholic education because they did not have that opportunity growing up but wanted it for us. There was no question they wanted the best for us not just materially or emotionally, but most especially spiritually. Their firm faith and resolve to pass it on is just one example of how they are my first and ongoing teachers of my Catholic faith.

Perhaps most influential, however, was their prayer and humble example of living the faith not just in word but in practice. When they would kneel down by our beds to pray at night when we were little, and in later years, I would see them consistently kneeling by their own bed in the morning and evening saying their prayers. It made clear that faith was real and powerful in their lives, which taught me the importance of living my Catholic faith.

Even in times of great personal trials like when my father was on hospice, his "is Fr. Don coming home for Mass this week?" and "Joanne, God has a plan and we must follow it" (which was my dad's response after he was informed his cancer was terminal) reminds me that my first and ongoing teachers of our Catholic faith are my mom and dad.

June

- 5 11:00 Mass for Lumen Christi missionaries, Broom Tree Retreat and Conference Center
- 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 6 10:30 Confirmation, Immaculate Conception, Waubay; Christ the King, Webster, at Christ the King in Webster
- 2:00 Confirmation, St. Lawrence, Milbank
- 7 Bishop's Charity Fishing Tournament, Lakeside Park, Big Stone City
- 12 4:00 Confirmation, Sacred Heart, Gettysburg; St. Pius X, Onida, at Sacred Heart in Gettysburg
- 13 12:00 Confirmation, SS Peter and Paul, Pierre
- 4:00 Final Mass at St. John the Baptist, Onaka
- 14 Bishop's Charity Fishing Tournament, Oahe Downstream Recreational Area, Pierre
- 15-18 USCCB Spring Conference
- 19 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 22 12:00 Diocesan Finance Council, Catholic Pastoral Center

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

Officials



The Most Reverend Donald E. DeGrood decreed the following since the most recent publication of The Bishop's Bulletin:

Reverend Robert Wullweber, granted personal leave from assigned ministry, effective May 7, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew K. Althoff
Chancellor

Prayer for Vocations

Lord Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant to our young people the generosity necessary to follow Your call and the courage required to overcome all obstacles to their vocation. Give to parents that faith, love and spirit of sacrifice which will inspire them to offer their children to God's service and to rejoice whenever one of their children is called to the priesthood or religious life. May Your example and that of Your Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph encourage both young people and parents and let Your grace sustain them. Amen.

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

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Seven Sisters Apostolate covers priests in prayer

By Wendy Royston

Groups of women around the Diocese of Sioux Falls are gathering spiritually to encircle their pastors in seven hours of daily prayer (one hour per day) before the Blessed Sacrament each week.

The Seven Sisters Apostolate began in Minneapolis when “in 2010 Janette Howe sensed a nudge to pray more frequently and intentionally for her pastor ... rector of the Cathedral of St. Paul in St. Paul, Minnesota,” according to the organization’s website. “During a walk one day, it occurred to Janette that the very least she might do in gratitude for Father’s ever-generous pastoral care would be to offer a Holy Hour once a week for him.”

Howe began to offer a weekly Holy Hour for her pastor that summer. While praying, she heard the words “seven sisters.” Initially thinking she’d misheard the prompting, “she reached into her purse for the Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows [and] more clearly heard, ‘seven sisters.’”

Over time, Howe sensed the Lord asking her to invite six others to offer a Holy Hour each week for her pastor. And so the first Seven Sisters Apostolate was formed. Today, more than 1,350 groups of Seven Sisters pray for their local pastors in

parishes, chanceries, seminaries, hospitals and other locations around the world, with 10, including Bishop Donald DeGrood, enveloped in prayer in our diocese.

How does it work?

Each group is led by an anchoress, who makes a two-year commitment to lead the six other prayers, who each commit to 52 weeks of prayer.

“They are covered in prayer every day of the week,” Amy Christenson, Bishop DeGrood’s anchoress, explained, adding that women enrolled in the apostolate are “one heart in prayer. ... We just do whatever the Holy Spirit says to do during that hour, always inviting Mary into it.”

The Seven Sisters each pray separately before the Blessed Sacrament wherever they happen to be that day, saying whatever prayers they feel moved to say, plus any their pastor or bishop has requested. Bishop DeGrood’s group consists of three sets of Seven Sisters, one praying in the morning, one midday and one at night. Amy, the group’s anchoress, said she joined his apostolate when she learned of the need while working to form one for her own pastor.

Although there are no prescribed prayers for the women’s Holy Hours, many pray the Rosary, a Divine Mercy Chaplet and various other prayers suggested in literature provided by the mother organization.

“So many of the intercessors for Bishop DeGrood have told me that the time goes by so fast that they don’t even get through the prayers they intended to pray for him,” Amy said. “We feel we are the most blessed to answer the call from our Blessed Mother to sit at the feet of her Son, Jesus, Our Savior, and pray for her priest sons on earth. ... [Many of the Seven Sisters have] said that they’ve gotten so many more blessings out of it than they think that they’ve given him. You really do, because God [said], ‘You take care of my Kingdom, and I’ll take care of you.’”

For Mary Parker and others in the apostolate praying for their pastor at St. Teresa of Calcutta in Dakota Dunes, the apostolate was an opportunity to come together spiritually during a time when many were physically distancing from one another.

“Everybody was looking for something to do because nobody was going anywhere,” she said, adding that “COVID did not

affect us getting started, because we each pray separately” and social distancing is easy when praying alone in front of the Blessed Sacrament, but knowing they’re praying for the same purpose brought unity.

May is the apostolate’s official month of discernment, with commitments traditionally made in June, the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, but the Dakota Dunes group got their start in January, after some stirring in parishioners’ hearts in late 2020.

Mary, anchoress in her parish, said her participation has also gifted her with the opportunity to become more familiar with the challenges of the priesthood.

“[The priesthood is] not an easy vocation, and now it’s getting harder and harder,” she said, because of societal shifts away from traditional values and waning respect for clergy. “I have a deeper appreciation” of the priesthood as a result of involvement in the apostolate, and “now I look for more ways to be helpful. ... Priests can be in pain or have bad days, too, and everyone overlooks their own, but ... they hold [priests] to a higher standard.”

Father Joe Vogel, pastor at St. Teresa of Calcutta, agreed, adding that prayer for priests is important.



Father Joe Vogel

“I think people think that priests are self-sufficient because they pray about everything, but where’s the devil going to be? Going after the priests,” he said. “In the culture today, everybody likes to

take pot shots at the priests. The devil is alive and well. ... If you can take a priest down, you’ve taken 1,000 people down. ... [Because of the apostolate, priests do not fight] alone. The devil can take on an individual soldier, but it’s hard to bring down a whole group.”

Coming from a family of eight siblings, five of them younger sisters, Father Vogel is used to the power of women’s prayers in his life.

“I know the power of family prayer, and this is another level of family prayer,” he said. “There’s a big difference between people around the world praying for me versus people in the pew who know me—that Holy Hour is like gold.”

Intentional prayer for priests

Father Vogel, who also pastors the

parishes in Elk Point and Jefferson, was thrilled to hear that the mission his sister (Amy Christenson) is leading for Bishop DeGrood had extended to his parish and his own priesthood.

“Lots of people say, ‘Father we’re praying for you,’ but ... this is very intentional, and they do a Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament every week. That’s a whole different level of commitment,” he said. “The people who are praying for me ... know me and see me. That’s a whole other level of prayer, because they know the challenges of their local priest.”

Father Vogel said he can feel the women’s prayers making differences in his life.

“[When I’m] trying to make a decision to do something or discern this or that, I know for certain that this is right, or the voice of God is clearer, and there’s more certainty at different times,” he said. “I’d be a fool if I didn’t think that’s from people praying for me. That’s a gift of God that we all need.”

At St. Teresa of Calcutta, Father Vogel’s apostolate consists of daily Mass-goers, which adds an extra layer of specialness to their commitment to his priesthood.

“My first pastor ... always said, ‘Take care of your daily Mass crowd, because they’ll take care of you,’” he said. “In my mind, the people who sign up for this are well-seasoned and know the bumps of life and most of these people know the inside of a priest’s life. ... This is intentional prayer by women who know the Lord and are living the Gospel and know their priests are in the battle, but we are all in it together.”

All women are invited

When she first began looking for others to join in the apostolate, Mary said she turned to her local Catholic Daughters chapter and others attending daily Mass.

“I know that these people go to church and make other Holy Hours, too. They’re really devout people,” she said, but added that those interested in joining the apostolate don’t have to be perfect Catholics. “You just have to commit to doing this every week.”

Father Vogel said the apostolate is a natural extension of Bishop DeGrood’s vision for the diocese to *Lifelong Catholic Missionary Discipleship Through God’s Love*.

“It’s hard to be a priest, because we can be so isolated. [Bishop DeGrood’s] three favorite words are for priests to be healthy, happy and holy, and when I know I’m

being supported, I’m more confident” and able to live out his own mission, Father Vogel said. He added that “this could not be done without the Blessed Mother leading it. ... From the cross, Jesus said, ‘Behold your mother.’ ... It makes sense that Mary was praying for us then and now these women are praying for us.”



Mary Parker prays for the pastor of her parish. (Photo by Monica Elsinger) **Photo opposite page:** Amy Christenson prays for Bishop DeGrood.

Amy, who grew up praying the Rosary alongside Father Vogel and their grandmother, agreed, saying she did not find the other 20 women praying for Bishop DeGrood on her own.

“The Blessed Virgin Mary did it,” she said. “I would go to Mass and say, ‘Okay, Mary, who do you want?’ I would carry the pamphlet and a book that is helpful to give to people so that they understand it, and there she was at Mass.”

Along the way, no one approached by either Mary or Amy about involvement has declined the invitation, even after two members of Bishop DeGrood’s group had to be replaced upon their deaths.

Currently, Seven Sisters Apostolates are at work for about nine parishes in the diocese. Mary said she would like to see all the parishes in the diocese form groups for their pastors.

“I think every priest” needs one, she said. “I just wish every priest could have ... a group.”

Those interested in joining or forming an apostolate can research it at sevensistersapostolate.org.



The Parental GIFT

PASSING ON THE FAITH
THROUGH LOVE AND SERVICE

by Renae Kranz

It's no secret our culture has been moving away from Christian values for decades now, and that move to a more secular world with no need for religion or God seems to be picking up speed. In this environment, Catholic parents worry their children will grow up and walk away from their faith—and they often feel powerless to stop it.

What many parents forget is the real influence they have over how their children see and embrace their relationship with God and how well they learn their faith. And if parents don't use that influence to help deeply ingrain their children's faith in their hearts, our culture will sweep them into its secular current.

Father Shaun Haggerty says parents are the key to passing on the Catholic faith to their children, especially in times like these. They will have to be the primary teachers.

"It's a little intimidating for them to be the teachers, but that's really what's going to have to happen if the kids are going to keep the faith in the future," Father Haggerty says, "because it's going to become so counter-cultural [to be Catholic] that unless the parents are really teaching them, then they won't remain Catholic."

That can feel like a heavy burden, but parents are already equipped to teach their children how to love God and receive his love—and it begins with their own love and example.

THE FAMILY REFLECTS THE TRINITY

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) has an entire section entitled "The Family in God's Plan" that lays out how families play a significant role in the salvation of mankind. It begins by explaining how the family reflects the Trinity:

"The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit. In the procreation and education of children it reflects the Father's work of creation. It is called to partake of the prayer and sacrifice of Christ. Daily prayer and the reading of the Word of God strengthen it in charity. The Christian family has an evangelizing and missionary task." (CCC 2205)

When read closely, this passage from the catechism lays out everything parents need to do to teach their children the faith: prayer, sacrifice and attention to the Word of God. If the Christian family is to be missionary, parents must embrace the task of evangelizing their own children first. The catechism continues:

“Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and disinterested service are the rule. The home is well suited for education in the virtues. This requires an apprenticeship in self-denial, sound judgment, and self-mastery—the preconditions of all true freedom. Parents should teach their children to subordinate the “material and instinctual dimensions to interior and spiritual ones.” Parents have a grave responsibility to give good example to their children. By knowing how to acknowledge their own failings to their children, parents will be better able to guide and correct them ...” (CCC 2223)

The Church squarely puts the responsibility of passing on the faith to children on their parents. By creating a home “where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity and disinterested service” prevail, children learn by the example of their parents. You don’t have to be a theologian to pass on the faith, but you do have to recognize that it’s your responsibility first.

“I think a lot of times our parents are so used to delegating things out,” Father Haggerty says. “That’s the responsibility that parents really need to think about very carefully before they delegate that responsibility out to others, of teaching their children. It’s all vitally important; it’s really almost irreplaceable. It’s hard to get anyone better than parents [to teach the faith].”

Father Haggerty explains that delegating education of children to third parties wasn’t always the way things were done. It’s a product of the Industrial Revolution, and not necessarily a good one. Today, with both parents often working, it may seem impossible to have the time needed to pass on the Catholic faith, but it’s actually much simpler than we think.

Parents can start by living a life of love and service to their family and to their parish.

RELIGIOUS ED ALONE ISN’T ENOUGH

Don’t misunderstand, sending your kids to CCD or religious education classes is a necessary part of passing on your Catholic faith. But it isn’t the only part, or even the most important. The model of Mass on Sunday and CCD on Wednesday worked when Christianity was the dominant cultural influence (a “Christendom world”), but we no longer live in that world. It just isn’t enough exposure for kids learning the faith to be engaged with it only two hours a week according to Father Haggerty. We are living in a world that is becoming more missionary.

“If the culture is not Christian itself, then we ourselves need to be living it out even more because the culture in which we find ourselves is not assisting us at all in raising up faithful kids,” Father Haggerty says. “And so just dropping off [kids] at CCD was good because that wasn’t the only place they were getting it; it permeated the culture in a large way. But now the culture is becoming more and more unchristian and that certainly is not going to be enough.”

Father Haggerty, pastor at St. Lambert Parish in Sioux Falls, says many parishes involve parents in religious education, including his own parish. One way a parish might do that is to bring parents in once a month for a faith lesson so they can then go back home feeling confident enough to teach their kids several aspects of what they themselves learned.

Another method encourages a Christian environment within the parish through activities and community nights that bring families together to help them raise up their kids in the faith. It helps parents feel a sense of community and support for something that can otherwise feel intimidating.

The real key for parishes is to help parents realize their immense importance in passing on the faith and empower them to do so.

“Sometimes they don’t really realize how potent or how much it really sticks in the kids’ minds when Mom or Dad teach it and they may think, ‘Oh, I don’t know. I feel inadequate to teach.’ And then they automatically figure they can’t teach,” Father Haggerty says. “Now they’re being asked to teach the faith and a lot of it is revelatory for them. And you may not think they really want to listen to you, but it’s so impactful when you, as a parent, do that.”

Father Shaun Haggerty, Pastor of St. Lambert Parish, Sioux Falls



Former DRE (director of religious education) Teresa Townsend, parishioner at St. Mary Parish in Sioux Falls, has experienced teaching kids the faith from both perspectives. She knows that what she helped teach at CCD and confirmation classes is valuable, but the likelihood of her students remaining Catholic as they get older is much greater if there is follow-up at home. Parents are a huge part of drawing them into the love of God.

“Unless it is lived at home, I just think there’s a disconnect,” Teresa says. “And it’s harder for that child to be grounded in the faith if they don’t have that backup from home.”

do,” Miriam says. “And then the choice is up to you. You can either follow the weakest part or you can follow the strong part.”

Miriam is a self-described people person who loves to be of service to others. She taught CCD, helped with youth group, served funerals and generally stayed involved in her parish. She also made sure her kids went to youth rallies, D-camp and other offerings to help them get what they needed during their formative years. But her example made the real difference.

“I think that instead of preaching something, ‘you better do this, you better do that,’ they could just watch,” Miriam says. “By my example of serving, they could see that and doing it with love because I like doing it.”

One of the O’Connor’s daughters, Katie Weeder, now recognizes everything her mom did and showed her about how to live her faith.

“My mom did the best she could when it came to teaching or instilling the faith in us, and knew there was more,” Katie said. “So I feel like that’s why she made sure we attended everything offered by the Church. What we could go to together, we did. Once we went to college she encouraged us to attend the Newman Center, and that is where we really owned our Catholic faith as our own.”



Left to right: Dane Washenberger, Meg Townsend-Washenberger, Matt Townsend, Bill, Rachel Townsend, Teresa, Izzy Townsend

TEACHING BY EXAMPLE

Miriam and Ed O’Connor, parishioners at Holy Spirit Parish in Sioux Falls, knew they would need more than just sending their kids to CCD and attending Sunday Mass to teach them the Catholic faith and about the love of God. When the kids were little, they started out with prayers at meal times and before bed. As they got older, more was needed to move the needle.

The O’Connor’s are a great example of how what a parent does, not just says, can have a tremendous impact on their children. Over the years of raising their seven children, Mass was always a priority, no matter where they were. Even on vacation they would pack up the camper and head off to Mass or find a place to go to Mass while on the road. It was never even a question.

Ed and Miriam knew from their own experiences growing up that kids watch their parents to learn what to do and what not to do. Good or bad, they’re always soaking in what is happening around them.

“I feel like in our good things, we were teaching our kids what to do, and in our weaknesses, we were teaching our kids what not to

YOU HAVE TO LIVE IT TO GIVE IT

In her years working with catechists, Teresa always told them, “You can’t give what you don’t have.” She says that applies to parents as well and suggests you can start with a strong prayer life.

“You need to be embedded in the faith. You need to be dialed into the faith before you can pass it on to your kids,” Teresa says. “So praying with them, for them, just wrap yourself in prayer and then just be that example for them.”

Notice in her suggestion no words have been said yet. Start with prayer and then she says to start looking for what she calls “teachable moments” in your family life. Some examples of these moments would be when a child gets in trouble and you forgive them or showing them how to help a sibling with a chore. Teaching them love and service through family life and then being involved in parish life at the same time helps them make connections between everyday life and the love of God in the parish.

“You’re preparing them now for what they’re going to do in the future,” Teresa says. “You can’t just wait until second grade. You can’t wait until high school and then say, ‘okay, now we’re going

to do this.' It has to be part of your everyday life. You have to be consciously aware of it and hopefully they carry that through."

Teresa and her husband Bill, parents of four children, always made sure they prayed as a family, lived the liturgical seasons and made Mass and parish activities a priority. Over the years she developed a habit of kissing her kids' foreheads and giving them a blessing every night, something she heard at a conference. To this day, her grown children ask for that blessing before they leave when they've been visiting. It left a deep mark on them.

"I really do think it's as simple as they just need to know that you love them and that God loves them and wants a relationship with them," Teresa says.

Miriam's approach has been similar to Teresa's. She has always worked to make sure her kids understood God loves them. Her teaching at home often centered around 1 Corinthians 13:4 "love is patient, love is kind." She says she sang it around the house all the time. As she got older, she connected the dots to realize God is love.

"I was always singing that song thinking, 'Oh, God is patient God is kind.' And so then that's what we need to be," Miriam says. "If you want to be a loving person, you need to be patient, you need to be kind."

Left to right: Chase O'Connor, Shannon Heupel, Ed, Miriam, Erin Owen, Katie Weeder, Meghan Krueger, McKayla Krcil, Ellie O'Connor

With her children, Miriam felt giving them support in exploring their faith was critical. She suggested a Search event to her daughter Meghan, telling her what a great experience she had when she went. After her daughter came back from Search, Miriam says she was just on fire. Later when she took her to SDSU for new student orientation, she made sure they went to the Newman Center and to Mass. She also took several of her girls to a Theology of the Body event in Minneapolis. She says they didn't stop talking about it the entire drive home.

Miriam's daughter Katie felt that support as well. She noticed her mother becoming more involved in her faith and learning more as she got older. She remembers her mom telling them about retreats, camps and mission trips and always encouraging them if they wanted to attend.

"Eventually, we took ownership and found these opportunities on our own," Katie says. "When we would return home, we would discuss everything we learned and experienced. We were learning together. I remember her attending bible studies and retreats and it was modeled to me to continue to do that as I got older, not just something I did as a kid."

PRAY TOGETHER, STAY TOGETHER

Father Haggerty says the one most important thing he emphasizes for families is the old saying "the family that prays together, stays together." Letting your kids see you pray and also praying with them and teaching them how is the best way to help them develop their love for the Lord.

"Families that I know who do incorporate prayer together are much more together because the family unit is an image of the Trinity, and the Trinity is always in communion," Father Haggerty says. "And when we ourselves are praying, we're in communion with the Trinity. That enables us as a family to image that communion. We're trying to live out what's going on within God in our own families. And then if we as a family immerse ourselves in God, then we can live that reality in our own family life in a deeper way."

Invite and teach your kids to pray. Teach them about the enormous love God has for them. You as parents have much more power than you might realize. Take it from the child of a parent who modeled it for her:

"If I could tell someone things they should do to try to instill the faith in their children, from what my mother did, it would be first to model as best as possible," Katie says. "Next, when you feel like your child desires more but you don't feel equipped, use outside sources: meeting with others like priests, mentors and other families you look up to. Have them attend youth group, camps, retreats and conferences, but do it together. Last, be encouraging



and supportive. Don't make them feel like it's weird for wanting a deeper relationship with God."

Once you've done all these things and shown them the love God has for them, Teresa says it's time to give it over to God. She and Bill knew they had laid a good foundation and done the best they could with God's help. They can still be there for their kids to answer questions and offer support, but the rest is mostly out of their hands.

"We obviously go to Mass and we pray and we do all those things when we're together as a family, but they're adults, you can't force them," Teresa says. "You can't force them to do anything. And I do a lot of praying. That's the best thing we can do."

Father Haggerty's sound advice can't be said too many times.

"If you want your kids to turn out like Jesus so much so that they could act like Jesus, the family that prays together, stays together."

Are the teachings of the Church Jesus' teachings?



How do we know the teachings of the Catholic Church are the teachings of Jesus?



In April's column we addressed the claim that Catholics are not permitted to think for themselves. As noted then, oftentimes the real issue underlying this objection is the view that the teachings of the Church are not the teachings of Jesus. In other words, the person who makes this objection often does not believe the teachings of the Catholic Church are the teachings of Jesus Christ. Let's see how we can respond to this challenge.

At the end of St. Matthew's Gospel, Jesus commanded the apostles to proclaim his teachings to the entire world. In other words, the followers of Jesus—led by the apostles and their successors, who are the bishops—were tasked with the duty and responsibility of passing on his saving teachings to all peoples for all time.

There is a problem here, however: what is the guarantee that, as generations passed, the teachings which Jesus' followers taught and passed on would actually be his teachings?

The Catholic Church looks to the same Gospel, Matthew, for the answer. In Matthew 16, Jesus proclaims it is on Peter that he will build his Church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against that Church. It is to the first part of these verses that we look for the origins of the pope's role in the Church, but it is in the later part of the passage that we look for the origins of the Church's infallibility, her ability to teach without error. Let's look at this more closely.

Jesus says the gates of hell will not prevail against the Church. Since the very beginning of Christianity this has been understood to mean Jesus is guaranteeing the Church will not teach error, that the Church will always faithfully hand on Jesus' own teachings. Why is this so? Because if the Church were able to teach error, in some little way the gates of hell would prevail against the Church.

Jesus' statement that the gates of hell will not prevail against the Church means,

then, the Church will never teach error, that it is impossible for the Church to do so. And Jesus fulfills this guarantee not by the brilliance of popes or bishops, but rather by the power of his own Holy Spirit. That is, it is by the power of God himself, by the power of the Holy Spirit, that the Church is protected and prevented from teaching error.

There are other places in Scripture which confirm this reality. St. Paul, for instance, refers to the Church as the pillar and foundation of truth (1 Timothy 3:15). In John's Gospel, Jesus repeatedly tells the apostles at the Last Supper that the Holy Spirit will guide them in all truth (e.g. John 14:15ff, 15:26ff and 16:12ff).

Consider how the faith originally spread: by the preaching of the apostles and other disciples. But how were people to know that apostolic preaching was authentic, that is, that it really was what Jesus himself taught?

There were certainly indicators like miracles which confirmed their teachings, but ultimately, they pointed to the power of the Holy Spirit as guarantor of the faith of the Church as the faith given to us by Jesus.

Time and time again in the early centuries of Christianity, we see Christians exhorted to remain with the Church, to not separate themselves from the Church, or more specifically from the bishops. As early as the first century, we read St. Ignatius of Antioch reminding Christians not to separate themselves from the bishop, and only a few decades later, St. Irenaeus of Lyons writing that it is in the Church where one finds the truth. Or perhaps most strongly, we read St.



Augustine a couple centuries later saying he “would not believe the Gospels unless the authority of the Catholic Church moved me to.”

Again, this is all pointing to what we heard from Jesus himself: it is by the power of his Spirit that this happens. Our belief that the teachings of the Catholic Church are the teachings of Jesus Christ rests ultimately upon our confidence in Jesus himself and his promise regarding the Church.

If we believe Jesus and trust in his words, we can be certain that the teachings of the Catholic Church are his own teachings, and we can accept and follow them with confidence.

Be sure to check out the additional resources at sfcatholic.org/answer.

If you have a question you need an answer to, email rkrantz@sfcatholic.org.

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



Rogation Days Procession prays for blessings

Members of Holy Cross Parish in Ipswich recently celebrated the annual Rogation Days Procession on May 10. The Minor Rogation Days are on the last three days before Ascension Thursday and were instituted to appease divine justice, ask for protection, and invoke God's blessing on the harvest. The Litany of the Saints is chanted in procession with the cross and people praying and asking for God's blessing.

The Minor Rogation Days are a time focused on asking God's blessing in the planting season for an abundant harvest and for protection against calamities such as disease, bad weather and natural disasters.

Fifteen-year-old Logan Hoerner recognizes the value of these prayers and blessings. His favorite bible verse is Deuteronomy 28:8, "The Lord will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The Lord your God will bless you in the land."

"I like this verse because I like agriculture, and it represents that the Lord will

look over your farm, and everything you own," Logan said. "If you think you are going to have a bad crop, and the ground is very dry, turn to God and pray, and he will bless your fields, and if there is a bad storm coming, get the Holy Water out and sprinkle your farm. Turn to God and pray that your farm will be safe and it won't destroy your buildings."

Rogation Days are promoted by Catholic Rural Life, a national Catholic organization promoting Catholic life in rural America with support from the bishops of the United States.

Father Tim Smith is the delegate for Catholic Rural Life in the Diocese of Sioux Falls and is given the responsibility to continue and promote these important traditions of our Catholic faith in rural parishes.



The cross leads the Rogation Days Procession in Ipswich followed by parish members and Fr. Tim Smith. (Photo and story courtesy of Fr. Tim Smith)

Father Smith said these important prayers strengthen our relationship with God and help us live with gratitude for all of God's gifts.

For more information on how to become a member of the Catholic Rural Life organization, contact Father Smith at Holy Cross Parish or visit catholicrurallife.org.

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Trust the Lord with all your crop, and your livestock

By Jake Geis

Faith and farming—an alliteration so timeless that it dabbles in being cliché. Yet the two must go hand-in-hand, because the only alternative explanation for placing your family's livelihood at the whim of weather, world markets and waspy livestock is insanity. Seeing a distinct shortage of people planting fields in straightjackets, I'm guessing the first option is why we keep farming.

This makes farms and ranches great laboratories to explore the value of faith. In a culture suffering from turning its back to Jesus, taking a moment to observe how faith sustains the family farmer can provide insights for urban and rural folks alike.

Hopes are built on faith

"In toil you shall eat its yield" (Gen 3:17) can feel like an average day to the farmer. Sure, technology has drastically changed the way we produce food, but no computer program will change the need for rain or the erratic mind of the female bovine after calving. We move forward with each task with hope it will work out okay.

For example, in my mind at this moment, I hope the 30 percent chance of rain be-



Jake Geis is a parishioner at St. Martin Parish in Emery and ranches with his parents.

ing called for on Wednesday gives us at least a half inch of moisture. I also hope the bred heifers we are selling Friday sell for more than it cost to raise them. Lastly, I hope all the cattle move through the open gate this afternoon into the correct pasture and don't decide to go through the fence into the pasture I'm saving for later in the year. Especially calf number 607, because he insists on making our life difficult.

The truth is, I can hope all these things will happen, but there's not a darn thing I can do to make sure they happen. That's where faith steps in.

I have faith that God hears the prayers my family and I send his way every morning and evening. I have faith that even if it stays dry, if the heifers go for little to nothing, and if number 607 plows through the fence and disappears never to be seen again, God is still there for us.

This recognition by farmers and ranchers that we have to leave so much of our livelihood in God's hands encourages faith, even in the face

of adversity. Faith says that when things don't go well, God did not forget or ignore us but let this thing happen so we could learn from it. It's our choice if we use this experience to grow closer to him or walk away.

Agriculture is an incubator for faith, because at its core is a belief things will work out. After everything droughted out in 2012, the crop still went into the ground and the cattle still went out to pasture in 2013. And wouldn't you know it, it rained in 2013, 2014 and 2015... but too much in 2019. In short, good times followed the bad, just as they have on the farm in every age since Adam started growing wheat. If God brought us through tough patches in the past to better things, we can have faith he'll do it again.

Faith is not for farmers alone

The little steeples in small towns across our diocese are a testament to our agrarian forefather's faith in God. But church steeples are not isolated to rural environments, and neither should faith be. Recent events have provoked feelings of despair in so many, and it's not unwarranted. I think it's safe to say the last year or so was one of the roughest the world has had in a while, and I'm not sure how we'll come out the other side of it.

But that doesn't mean we give up on God. Rather, it's time to grease the tractor and plant that corn right into the dust. Because for those with eyes to see, we can see the harvest is ripe, ready for the laborers who reap with joy and love.

If this seems farfetched, consider the number-one podcast on Apple at the start of 2021 was "The Bible in a Year." With that many downloads, it's evident folks are looking! People are hungry for God; they just need others they trust to guide them to him. We then must help them understand that God didn't promise to take away all the oscillations in the soundtrack of our life, but he faithfully walks with us to the beat of every tune.

St. Isidore the farmer, pray for us that we may have a bountiful harvest in the fields and in the hearts of men. And pray for calf number 607. He's still MIA and nuttier than a pet coon.

Calf number 607 with his mom, behaving for the moment as he poses for the camera. (Photo by Jake Geis)



Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate

Five men were ordained to the order of diaconate in the Diocese of Sioux Falls on May 15 at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph. Bishop Donald DeGrood was the ordaining bishop.

These men went through four years of formation under Deacon John Devlin in preparing for their ordination.

Photo above: Bishop DeGrood speaks words of encouragement and holy instruction during his homily. **Photo below:** Bishop DeGrood hands the Book of the Gospels to Jonathan Eckrich during ordination. Reading the Gospel during Mass is a deacon's duty whenever they are serving with a priest or bishop.



Photo left: The five new deacons of the diocese with Bishop DeGrood. From left to right: Daniel Guy Sherban, Jeffrey Paul Swank, Bradley Elvin Palmer, Bishop Donald DeGrood, Peter Jude Sexton and Jonathan Scott Eckrich. **Photo below:** The men lay prone in front of the altar during the Litany of Supplication.



All photos on this page by Jordan Pannell Photography.



Fathers serve their families with love and devotion

By Becca Thiry

The subject of fatherhood can be viewed in a multitude of ways. For some, when they hear the word “father,” they are brought back to fond memories of their upbringing, maybe the stereotypical playing catch with dad or their wedding day, and their beloved father waiting to walk his daughter down the aisle. For others maybe it’s more of a sensitive subject, they never knew their father or he was absent from the family for different reasons. Sometimes we immediately think of a priest as father or even God the Father.

Whatever it may be, the term father usually represents the head of a household. The backbone. A strong male figure. The reality is everyone views fatherhood differently, mostly based on our own personal experiences. When speaking on fatherhood within the family, we know a father’s spirituality is important and can have an impact on his wife and children.

Seeing Dad kneel down

Father Tony Klein is the parochial vicar at Holy Spirit Parish in Sioux Falls. Reflecting on his first year as a priest, he says it’s been awesome but a whirlwind.

“I imagine it [becoming a priest] is somewhat like becoming a father to a child. There’s a lot of excitement but everything is for the first time and is so new! While there is an excitement to it you’re also like, ‘what am I doing?’”

Father Klein said although the thought of going to seminary and becoming a priest was scary, he began his discernment his sophomore year of high school. It was during his senior year he began to more seriously consider seminary when doors began closing and it was becoming clearer that was where God was calling him.

A religious vocation wasn’t something foreign to the Klein family. He has one sister who is married and active in the Church and another sister who is a nun. Often Father Klein is asked, “How did your parents do it? What’s the trick?”

“We lived a very normal life, and I mean that in the best sense of the term. It was a nonnegotiable for going to Mass on Sunday,” he said. “We would pray together before we went to bed. But our house wasn’t one big Bible study. There was great normalcy that the faith is intertwined in everything we do.”

But Father Klein remembers a conversation with his own dad about three years into seminary. His dad told him how proud he was of him, but his being proud of him wasn’t dependent upon being in seminary. It was made clear that he was giving him total freedom to choose where he wanted to be, which isn’t always the case for others.

“It is a sacrifice for parents, it’s a beautiful sacrifice, but I can understand how parents who love their vocation desire their children to experience that vocation as well.”

Father Klein said he always wanted a brother but had two older sisters, so in his family, when the girls went and did things together, it was just him and his dad. They had a lot of time together fishing and being outdoors. During that time, he was able to watch and learn from his dad which helped slowly shape his own spiritual journey. He recalled the simple



things that struck him as a child, like kneeling and praying in the living room and the impact of watching his dad kneel in their home.

“To see the male figure of your house kneel down says a lot. It said more than my dad sitting me down and trying to explain the faith and who God our Heavenly Father was,” Father Klein said. “It was all said when he knelt down.”

It was the little examples for Father Klein that made a huge impact. It wasn’t lectures or being told what he needed to do. It was watching his own father make simple acts of love for the Lord that helped shape his own heart and love for Jesus.

“My bedroom was next to my parents’ room and I was up late one night in my room and I saw him go to bed and before he shut the light off, he kissed the crucifix by the door,” Father Klein described. “I don’t think he saw me see him do it. But that was something I still remember to this day. That says a lot to a child.”

Now Father Klein is in his own fatherhood and has used the examples of his dad to bring forth his spiritual fatherhood. He explains how being a priest is a fatherhood that transcends certain dimensions of normal life. Being able to father men and woman who are much older than him, but look to him for their own guidance.

“I’m 27 years old and I’m a father to people over 100. People with much more life experience and a lot more wisdom than I have but they still call me Father,” he

says. “I notice it most in the confessional that people trust even a brand-new priest. It has been really humbling to see that they are not coming to me because they see Tony Klein, they are coming to me because I am a father and God has given me the ability to forgive sins through the sacrament.”

Firm foundation of faith

Cole Hardie, 19, of Sioux Falls is another young man who is currently discerning his vocation while attending minor seminary at St. John Vianney College Seminary in the Twin Cities. Cole had a similar upbringing to Father Klein in that his father played a role in helping shape his faith formation.

“My mom likes to tell a story where at my first communion I told her I was going to be a priest. It’s a beautiful grace and it’s just been written on my heart a really long time,” Cole said.

The Hardie family also attended Mass every Sunday and strove to pray as a family together. In Cole’s words it was just easy to be Catholic in their family, and his father was there encouraging and supporting him and his siblings in their faith.

“His biggest impact on my faith is his example. He is a really virtuous man, who works really hard and loves his family,” Cole said. “He’s always been a firm foundation for me. God has given him a lot of gifts to help out and support his family, he goes to work and comes home and doesn’t stop serving and loving us. I don’t know where he gets the energy but he does it!”

Cole is one of seven children and said when he was in fifth grade they began praying family rosaries together. He recalls that his family grew in holiness together and stuck with the tradition of rosaries and daily prayer. The kids were also homeschooled up until high school where they attended O’Gorman Catholic High School in Sioux Falls. Cole said he enjoyed both his experience being homeschooled and also attending a Catholic school.

Father Tony Klein with his dad, Steven, during his ordination to the priesthood. (Photo by Michael G. Brown Photography, Sioux Falls)



Cole Hardie with his dad, Mark, at his high school graduation.

Now that Cole is in college seminary and preparing to potentially be ordained a priest later down the road, he reflects often on how his own relationship with his father is helping prepare him for spiritual fatherhood.

“The love of my own father and his family is really similar to a spiritual father and the love of his flock. I can just look to my dad and see how he gives his whole life to his family and how I’m called to the same as a priest. Even if I discern out and decide that marriage is for me, I’m still supposed to pour out to my family,” Cole said.

He shares that it is in the masculine heart that men can find their calling to pour out and to serve others. So regardless of the vocation, men are called to lay down their lives and serve.

He is learning that the most important part of the spiritual life is to know you are loved by God the Father, and that he is taking care of you.

“That has been easy for me to grasp because of my own father and what he has given to me,” Cole said. “It’s really necessary to have a good father figure in our lives. I’m so grateful for my own father and the impact he’s had on me.”



Treasures of the Church tours the diocese



Several parishes around the diocese hosted Treasures of the Church exposition of sacred relics for veneration during the month of May. The exposition of 165 sacred relics included the True Cross, Mary's veil, St. Joseph, each of the Twelve Apostles and many saints. All but six of the relics were first class relics.

Nicholas Lanners, parishioner at Risen Savior Parish in Brandon, said of the exposition, "Almost 2,000 years later, I'm able to be in the physical presence and touch our beginning apostles. It brings a deeper meaning to Bishop DeGrood's Holy Spirit vision on missionary discipleship for my diocese."

"The relics were so cool and sacred! It was surreal to see the wood from the cross and part of the crown of thorns," said eighth grader Landon Dulaney.

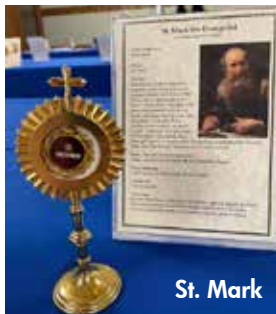
"I was amazed to see some wood pieces from the cross that Jesus himself died on for us," said fifth grader Tristan Dulaney. "I put my baseball cap next to it so that when I wear it, I always feel he is with me."



True Cross



Mary's Veil



St. Mark



St. John Paul II

Photos by Brianna Wingen and Fr. Andy Young taken at Risen Savior Parish, Brandon.

Parish youth crown Mary



The 7th grade Youth Discipleship group from St. Peter Parish in Jefferson and St. Joseph Parish in Elk Point hosted a Crowning of Mary April 25 at St. Peter Parish. May crownings of Mary are done in many parishes to honor the role Mary played in salvation history by her "yes" to God to become the mother of our Lord. (Photo courtesy of Jean Limoges)



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Five Presentation Sisters celebrate jubilees

75th Jubilee



Sister Jean Huntimer, PBVM

Sister Jean Huntimer will celebrate her 75th jubilee. For 45 years, she was a teacher and principal in Catholic schools throughout South Dakota, Minnesota, Montana and New Mexico. She served in parish ministry in Huron and volunteered at Avera St. Luke's Auxiliary Guest House. She is fully retired and engaged in prayer ministry.

60th Jubilees



Sister Ruth Geraets, PBVM

Sister Ruth Geraets will celebrate her 60th jubilee. She taught in Catholic schools in Minnesota and South Dakota for 21 years before working with Catholic Community Services in West Virginia. She ministered on the Cheyenne River Reservation and later in parishes. Congregational treasurer since 2008, she also works with Seventh Generation Interfaith Coalition for Responsible Investment.



Sister Mary Jaeger, PBVM

Sister Mary Jaeger will celebrate her 60th jubilee. Her healthcare ministry spans throughout South Dakota and Wisconsin. She founded Prairie Hospice at St. Joseph Hospital in Mitchell and was the South Dakota director of Community Health. She served in Mission Services at Avera McKennan and St. Anthony's, O'Neill, Nebraska. Retired, she volunteers and is an Avera Health Board member.



Sister Janet Schumacher, PBVM

Sister Janet Schumacher will celebrate her 60th jubilee. She taught in South Dakota for 15 years before serving as a spiritual retreat director and campus minister throughout the United States for 40 years. Sister shared her gifts as a spiritual care coordinator at June E. Nylene Cancer Center and currently is a hospice volunteer in Sioux City, Iowa.

UPCOMING RETREATS

SILENT RETREATS

Men's Silent Retreats

- August 19-22
- September 23-26
- October 21-24
- November 18-21

Women's Silent Retreats

- June 17-20
- August 12-15
- September 16-19
- October 7-10
- November 4-7

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.

August 17, 2021
"The Gift of Forgiveness"
- directed by Teresa Henrickson

September 14, 2021
"Saint Paul at Athens – Talking to an Unbelieving World"
- directed by Fr. Paul King

SPECIAL RETREATS

October 15-17, 2021
UNDONE: A Healing Retreat
- directed by Fr. Scott Traynor

November 12-14, 2021
Couples Retreat
- directed by Jim and Meg Beckman

123 Saint Raphael Circle, Irene, SD 57037
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broom-tree.org



Sister Janet Horstman PBVM

50th Jubilee

Sister Janet Horstman will celebrate her 50th jubilee. She was a teacher and campus minister in South Dakota and Nebraska before transitioning to work with the Latino population. She did parish ministry in Omaha, Nebraska, then joined other Presentation Sisters, establishing a corporate Hispanic ministry, Caminando Juntos, where she provides immigration legal services as a DOJ-accredited representative.

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ABERDEEN – George and Shirley Rausch will celebrate their 60th anniversary on June 6. They have 5 children, 13 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.



ABERDEEN – Joel and Kimberly Carda celebrated their 25th anniversary on May 18. They have 3 children and are members of St. Mary Parish.



ABERDEEN – Rich and Caroline Sahli will celebrate their 60th anniversary on June 10. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



ABERDEEN – Russell and Marilyn Stone will celebrate their 65th anniversary on June 8. They have 3 children (1 deceased), 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



ARTESIAN – Robert and Nancy Banks celebrated their 45th anniversary on May 29. They have 2 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Charles Parish.



BERESFORD – Royal and Kay Zweifel will celebrate their 40th anniversary on June 12. They have 3 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Teresa of Avila Parish.



BERESFORD – Larry and Ruth O'Connor will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 4. They have 4 children, 11 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Teresa of Avila Parish.



BROOKINGS – Doug and Cheryl Austreim will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 19. They have 4 children, 10 grandchildren and are members of St. Thomas More Parish.



BROOKINGS – Don and Donna Struck will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 5. They have 3 children, 9 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild and are members of St. Thomas More Parish.



BROOKINGS – Dan and Lila Tupa will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 26. They have 3 children and are members of St. Thomas More Parish.



BROOKINGS – Dave and Patty Helgeland will celebrate their 25th anniversary on June 29. They have 2 children and are members of St. Thomas More Parish.



CHAMBERLAIN – Tom and Jane Eimers will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 4. They have 6 children, 18 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren and are members of St. James Parish.



DANTE – Martin and Josie Rezac will celebrate their 45th anniversary on June 19. They have 4 children, 2 grandchildren and are members of Assumption Parish.



DELL RAPIDS – Mark and Helen LeBrun will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 26. They have 6 children (1 deceased), 21 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



ELKTON – Richard and Beth Frederiksen will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 26. They have 5 children, 17 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild and are members of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish.



EMERY – Loren and Amy Nolan-Huber will celebrate their 45th anniversary on June 19. They have 4 children, 14 grandchildren and are members of St. Martin Parish.



ESTELLINE – Tom and Carla Clarke will celebrate their 40th anniversary on June 27. They have 3 children, 1 grandchild and are members of St. Francis de Sales Parish.



GARRETSON – Ed and Julie Mueller will celebrate their 30th anniversary on June 1. They have 6 children (1 deceased), 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Rose of Lima Parish.



GARRETSON – Mark and Shirley Garry will celebrate their 45th anniversary on June 12. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of St. Rose of Lima Parish.



HARROLD – Dennis and Marlene Marso will celebrate their 55th anniversary on June 30. They have 4 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



HARTFORD – Don and Jane Knippling will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 5. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. George Parish.



IPSWICH – Jerome and Lydia Schumacher will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 26. They have 6 children, 17 grandchildren and are members of Holy Cross Parish.



KRANZBURG – Mike and Donna Zaug celebrated their 50th anniversary on April 24. They have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of Holy Rosary Parish.



MILBANK – Tom and Dianne Stoick celebrated their 50th anniversary on May 22. They are members of St. Lawrence Parish.



MITCHELL – Don and Barb Young will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 12. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



MITCHELL – Gus and Joanne Nelson will celebrate their 60th anniversary on June 10. They have 4 children, 10 grandchildren (1 deceased) and 8 great-grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



MITCHELL – Art and Helen Pollreis celebrated their 74th anniversary on May 7. They have 8 children (1 deceased), 16 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild and are members of Holy Family Parish.



MOBRIDGE – Don and Margaret Knodel will celebrate their 65th anniversary on June 10. They have 4 children, 5 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild and are members of St. Joseph Parish.



MONTROSE – Doug and Rose Marie Huiten will celebrate their 30th anniversary on June 29. They have 7 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Patrick Parish.



PIERRE – Bill and Marie Molseed will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 5. They have 3 children, 3 grandchildren, and are members of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish.



ROSCOE – Bruce and Janet Fuhrmann will celebrate their 30th anniversary on June 8. They have 5 children and are members of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.



SALEM – Darin and Michelle Ecklein will celebrate their 25th anniversary on June 1. They have 3 children and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SALEM – Robert and Jean Schnider will celebrate their 65th anniversary on June 15. They have 5 children, 7 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SCOTLAND – Jim and Theresa Sedlacek will celebrate their 60th anniversary on June 5. They have 5 children, 12 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren and are members of St. George Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Jim and Kathy Cink will celebrate their 60th anniversary on June 20. They have 3 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Tom and Stephanie Long will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 4. They have 3 children, 7 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Bob and Lori Sutton will celebrate their 30th anniversary on June 22. They have 2 children and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Ted and Pat Feller will celebrate their 55th anniversary on June 11. They have 4 children (1 deceased), 7 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Teresa and Bern Schliesman will celebrate their 65th anniversary on June 30. They have 5 children, 15 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Kelby and Jennifer Mieras will celebrate their 25th anniversary on June 1. They have 3 children, 1 grandchild and are members of St. Katharine Drexel Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Jim and Reva Krahn will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 5. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Phil and Debra Duchscher will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 24. They have 5 children, 2 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Eugene and Janet Hanisch celebrated their 65th anniversary on May 28. They have 3 children, 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – William and Carlotta Schoemer will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 19. They have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Regan and Julie Manning will celebrate their 25th anniversary on June 1. They have 2 children, 1 grandchild and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Gene and Shirlee Vogt will celebrate their 65th anniversary on June 20. They have 3 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Clair and Diann Wuebben will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 12. They have 3 children, 8 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



TABOR – Dennis and Sherry Povondra will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 5. They have 1 child, 1 grandchild and are members of St. Wenceslaus Parish.



TYNDALL – Edward and LaVon Humpal will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 26. They have 7 children, 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Leo the Great Parish.



WATERTOWN – Ray and Beverly Mack will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 12. They have 1 child, 3 grandchildren and are members of Holy Name of Jesus Parish.



WHITE LAKE – Dave and Lisa Reuland will celebrate their 35th anniversary on June 7. They have 3 children and are members of St. Peter 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 **June 16** for inclusion in the July 2021 edition to:

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

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At your parish
 Online
 In the mail

Bishop Hoch scholarships awarded for 2021-2022

The Bishop Hoch Scholarships have been awarded and announced for the 2021-2022 school year. This program was established to give the Diocese of Sioux Falls the ability to award a scholarship to attend either Mount Marty University in Yankton or Presentation College in Aberdeen to a student from each of its deaneries each year.

The scholarships are open to anyone intending to attend either Mount Marty University or Presentation Colleges in the next academic year. This includes new students, students already attending one of the universities/colleges, non-traditional students and transfer students.

This year's scholarship winners are:

In the Yankton deanery, **Michaela Kokes**, Mount Marty University.

In the Watertown deanery, **Payton Gassman**, Mount Marty University.

In the Sioux Falls deanery, **Alexandra Healy**, Mount Marty University.

In the Brookings/Huron deanery, **Lauren Stiefvater**, Mount Marty University.

In the Aberdeen/Pierre deanery, **Brianne Barstad** and **Isaac Sumption**, Presentation College.



Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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*Neither Catholic United Financial nor its standard Medicare Supplement insurance policy are connected with or endorsed by the US government or the federal Medicare program. Plan options vary depending on where you live. This is a solicitation of insurance. © 2021 Catholic United Financial MSNA10A

Recitation of the rosary planned

Friday, June 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.

Anniversary celebration for Fr. Cizewski

June 6 - Fr. Albert Cizewski will celebrate his 50th anniversary of priesthood on Sunday, June 6. Following 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. John de Britto Parish, an open house reception will be held at the Britton Event Center, 1203 3rd St, from 12-2 p.m. All parishioners, friends and acquaintances of the last 30+ years Fr. Albert has been with our diocese are invited. RSVP by May 31 to britton.StJohndeBritto@sfcatholic.org. If you are unable to attend the event, greetings may be sent to him at P.O. Box 108, Britton, SD 57430.

Last celebration of Mass in Onaka

June 13 - St. John the Baptist Parish in Onaka will celebrate its last Mass Sunday at 4 p.m. with Bishop Donald DeGrood presiding along with Father Darin Schmidt. The collection during Mass will go toward the St. John the Baptist Cemetery Fund which will continue to provide upkeep and maintenance of the cemetery. All are invited to Mass and an open house before Mass from 1-3:40 p.m. A roast beef dinner will follow Mass at the Onaka City Park with a free-will donation. Funds donated over the cost of the meal will go to the cemetery fund.

St. Lambert Parish Rummage Sale

July 16-18 - St. Lambert Parish will hold a rummage and book sale at East 16th St. and Bahnson Ave. Hours for the sale will be Friday and Saturday 8 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Shop for clothing, books, kitchen items, furniture, holiday decor, children's toys, man cave, games and more.

School of Healing in Yankton

July 30-31 - The Yahweh Shalom Prayer Group is hosting the School of Healing from Encounter Ministries at St. Benedict Parish, Yankton, beginning July 30 at 6:30 p.m. and ending July 31 at 10 p.m. Presenters will include Fr. Brian Gross and Fr. Patrick Gonyeau. For more information, visit www.encounterministries.us/events/soh-yankton.

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.

Pray at Planned Parenthood with Jericho's Wall group

Tuesday's - 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

Tuesday's/Thursday's - 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 from 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.

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 denwilliamradio@sfcatholic.org.

Traditional Latin Mass available

The Traditional Latin Mass, or the Extraordinary Form of the Mass, is offered every Sunday at 2 p.m. at St. Dominic Parish in Canton. The Latin Mass is also offered on most holy days of obligation and principal feasts of the Church Year at 7:30 p.m. St. Dominic Church is located at 800 E. Walnut Street. For more information, please call 605-764-5640 or email Father Lawrence at firmartinlawrence@sfcatholic.org.

Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit available

Would you like the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit to come to your parish? This display is from the Vatican and provides concrete evidence of the miracle of the Real Presence. To learn more, contact Earl Markley at 605-214-1620 or earl.markley@hotmail.com.

Catholic Family Services**Catholic Family Services Counseling**

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

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

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.

June 9-Online Scripture Study/ "Barnabas, Man for Others" will meet on Zoom 7-8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, June 9, 16 and 23. Read and reflect on booklet and participate in online discussion and prayer. More information on registration and ordering materials at www.yanktonbenedictines.org/online-scripture-groups/ or call 605-668-6021.

June 11-Online Lectio Divina, Fridays, June 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, S. Penny Bingham OSB at pbingham@yanktonbenedictines.org/605-668-6023. Include your email address.

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 or 605-668-6292.

Supervision for spiritual directors

Supervision groups for active spiritual directors have just begun. Please contact S. Jeanne Ranek at jeanne.ranek@yanktonbenedictines.org for more information.



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5PM - 9PM



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