



Monthly publication for the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls  
March 2020

# BISHOP'S BULLETIN



*Welcome*

Bishop Donald E. DeGrood

# God given desire to be a holy bishop as your shepherd



**I**t is a great gift to be able to greet you, the people of the diocese of Sioux Falls, in this my first Bishop's Bulletin column. Through this means I hope to be able to share my thoughts with you on matters important to our faith journey. Let us travel towards heaven together.

There is a great saying that says, "Where the shepherd goes so does the flock." If my heart is not set on fire with the love of God, how could I possibly lead you to the love of God and ultimately to heaven?

If I am not focused on God's will, how can I in turn teach you how to follow God's will? If my end goal isn't heaven to be with all of you, God, and the angels and saints, how can I hope that we will get there?

You see, only God can give us His divine (spiritual) life. What our hearts long for is a deep loving relationship with God and others, now and in heaven. Without the outpouring of God's divine life (grace), like when we receive the sacraments, we cannot experience the incredible gift and blessing of His life within us.

God's amazing love has deeply convinced me that I am one of his beloved sons, priests and now bishops. He has captured my heart and I thank Him for that!

The nature of this type of godly love seeks the good of others. That is why the more we receive the love of God, the more we are able to love God, others and ourselves so our focus is outwardly toward God and others rather than seeking our own selfish desires.

The gift of godly love is something no one can create; it is a pure spiritual gift from God. That is why when people ask me what they can do for me, I often respond, "Pray that I am a holy bishop."

A holy bishop is one whose focus is on God's will rather than on himself.

A holy bishop receives and shares God's love with others.

A holy bishop is willing to love God and others in the good times and the bad.

A holy bishop allows himself to be radically transformed by God's grace (spiritual help) so what others encounter is God in and through the bishop. St. Paul allowed this to happen and said, "It is no longer I living but Christ living in me."

My goal is to receive God's love and to respond to that love. Responding to that love entails "losing myself in love of God and others."

Now I get to do that for all you good folks, and knowing that God hears our prayers, that is why I ask for prayers—to be a holy bishop so together we can make our way to heaven through the love of God!

If I allow God's grace and love to flow through me to you, we will all be invigorated with the amazing love of God which transforms us and others and fulfills the one thing that will satisfy the deepest longing of our heart.

Upward and onward we go to our eternal destiny of heaven.

Know of my prayers for all of you!



## BISHOP'S SCHEDULE

### March

- 1 10:30 Confirmation, St. Katharine Drexel, Sioux Falls
- 1:30 Rite of Election, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 3 Watertown – Meet with area clergy, visits to local Catholic ministries
- 5:30 Mass and reception, Holy Name of Jesus, Watertown
- 4 Aberdeen – Meet with area clergy, visits to local Catholic ministries
- 5:30 Mass and reception, Sacred Heart, Aberdeen
- 7 5:00 Confirmation, Our Lady of Good Counsel (Elkton), SS. Simon and Jude (Flandreau) and St. Peter (Colman) in Colman
- 8 2:00 Confirmation, St. John the Baptist (Lesterville), St. Wenceslaus (Tabor), St. Vincent de Paul (Springfield) and St. Leo the Great (Tyndall) in Tyndall
- 10 12:00 Diocesan Finance Council, Catholic Pastoral Center
- 14 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 21 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 7:30 Gift of Hope, benefit event, O'Gorman Performing Arts Center, Sioux Falls
- 22 2:00 Confirmation, Risen Savior in Brandon
- 25 7:00 Knights of Columbus' fourth degree rosary and dinner, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 26 11:00 Chrism Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 29 9:30 Confirmation, St. Catherine (Big Bend), Immaculate Conception (Stephan) and St. Joseph (Fort Thompson) in Fort Thompson

### April

- 4 4:00 Passion Sunday Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 5 TBD Passion Sunday Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls

## Hearts hardened by ideology, ego leave no room for God, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Hearts hardened by ideology, selfishness and arrogance leave no room for God, Pope Francis said. “The Lord only goes in hearts that are like his heart,” that is, “hearts that are compassionate, open,” the pope said in his homily Feb. 18 during morning Mass at the Domus Sanctae Marthae. The pope reflected on the day’s Gospel reading from St. Mark in which Jesus warned the disciples against sharing the rebellious and corrosive attitudes the Pharisees and King Herod had toward Jesus. Pope Francis said that during Jesus’ time, there were people like the Pharisees who had a “hardened heart in order to promote a plan that was not God’s. There was no room for God’s plan, there was no room for compassion.” A remedy for a hardened heart does exist, he said, and it is remembering Christ’s mercy and compassion. A heart becomes hardened, he said, when “one forgets the grace of salvation” that is given freely without merit.

### 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

## THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

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### Publisher

Most Rev. Donald E. DeGrood

### Executive Editor

Rev. Michael L. Griffin

### Managing Editor

Mrs. Renae D. Kranz

### Communications Staff:

Mr. Jerome A. Klein  
Mr. William B. Sealey  
Mr. Kevin M. Fitzgibbons  
Miss Brianna L. Wingen

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Correspondence should be addressed to:  
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Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714  
Phone: 605-334-9861

E-mail: rkranz@sfcatholic.org  
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# What makes each Lent unique is you



A few years ago Bishop Swain honored me with a request to become the pastor of Saint Mary parish in Aberdeen. While I was sad to be leaving Pierre, I was excited about the challenges and opportunities a new parish affords.

However, unlike any of my other transfers, this one brought me home.

I was born and raised in Aberdeen, and so I occasionally have a small flashback to my youth as I make my way through town or simply go through the day. A few weeks ago I had one of those moments. The city of Aberdeen, and the northeast portion of South Dakota, was hit by two blizzards in January, and after helping dig out around the church, I made my way to the house in which I was raised to help dig out my parents.

My brother ran the snow blower and I shoveled. After I finished up my part and was walking down the cleared sidewalk to the side door, I stopped and wondered how many times I had shoveled this sidewalk since I first started to do so as a grade school student. I had no idea, but I could easily remember the feel of it, the memories as deep as the snow piles bordering the street.

The snow seemed deeper then, when I was younger. I know I was shorter then, but still, I know it was deeper. I remember one year, after a particularly bad storm, I was shoveling the front walk and it took forever. I had to use the snow shovel to shear away long sheets from the drift before scooping them up and heaving them over the top of the drift to the right.

It took forever, and when I was done, I laid down on the sidewalk, the snow rising like canyon walls on either side. I lay there, my gloved hand sliding up and down the snow walls, enjoying the majesty of it, this grand canyon of snow, there was just a sliver of cold blue sky beyond the vaulting snow walls.

There are moments of accomplishment that touch a boy's heart, and this was one of those moments. The vivid memory of getting up and walking through the hard carved tunnel as I made my way to the garage to hang up the shovel and head inside for warmth, stopping and looking back at the beautiful path carved into the drifts, side to side, end to end.

This was a part of my childhood, shoveling the same walk year after year, blizzards and

flurries, until I knew exactly when to lift the shovel so it did not hit the cracks or uneven pavement as I slid the shovel along.

Today I am 57 years old and shoveling the same walk again. I am taller now, of course, older and the snow does not seem as deep. I do not complain about having to do it as much as I did before, mostly just a little now. The cracks have been repaired and some of the pavement replaced, so I have to learn the feel of the walk all over again; but it was the same, and utterly different.

And a few days ago, we stood and processed forward, like we did when we were kids, and someone ground ashes into our foreheads and told us a truth we could barely comprehend when we were kids. We do it every year, and have for as long as we can remember.

Kids receive the ashes and the words and give up their pop and candy for 40 days and it is, for them, an adventure and a challenge, and this is a gift and a joy to us all; this is how it should be for them.

Hopefully they have not had the experiences of death that make the words more real, making them a stark reminder of how brief our time is in this life. Hopefully they have not had the experiences of loss reminding us that every parting might be for the last time.

We older folks have had those experiences, and hopefully we have allowed them to teach us in such a way that the ashes and the words and the days that follow become something more than just a time to give up a few joys for a few days. We have had the experiences, and with them our Lenten days can become something more.

We can allow them to be days when we reacquaint ourselves with our own lives, and who we love and who loves us, and why. Perhaps we will find the courage to tell them again, and show them again, and to learn to let go of the fear that keeps us from being ourselves and to let go of the hurts of the past that make us want to hide.

We are older now, perhaps wiser, and led by God, who is "ever ancient, ever new," into this gift of Lent so we can learn all over again. The events of the past change us, and Lent gives us the space to make sense of it all.

The rituals are the same, as are the words, but we are utterly different; Lent is never the same.

# Lenten spiritual disciplines

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.



## Congratulations, Bishop Donald DeGroot.

With prayers and best wishes from the seminarians, priests, deacons and lay leaders of Saint John Vianney College Seminary and The Saint Paul Seminary.



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# Welcome

## Bishop Donald E. DeGrood



### APOSTOLIC LETTER

Bishop Donald E. DeGrood showed those in attendance of the Mass of Ordination the Apostolic Letter from Pope Francis that confirms he is chosen to be bishop of the Diocese of Sioux Falls.

*Photos from this article are courtesy of Michael G. Brown Photography and Dave Hrbacek of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Cover photo by Kevin M. Fitzgibbons.*

By Renae Kranz



On Thursday, February 13 our new shepherd, Bishop Donald DeGrood, was ordained and installed as the ninth bishop of Sioux Falls.

Many around the diocese witnessed the Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph. Soul-raising music, fragrant incense and ancient traditions came together to create a day of great joy and moving moments.

When Bishop DeGrood said a few words at the end of the Ordination Mass, he had to remind himself to change his thinking and remember to call himself a bishop. The experience had clearly moved him.

“God is good,” Bishop DeGrood began. “I’m thinking to myself, how do I describe the experience? It’s like a huge lightning engagement with the Holy Spirit.”

He then pointed above him to the words painted on the massive arch framing the sanctuary and continued.

“At the very top here—I had to check with Father

Lawrence to make sure I had my Latin right—but it should say ‘Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.’ And may that be our mission as we go forward,” Bishop DeGrood said.

“We heard from the decree and the beautiful words of Archbishop Pierre [Apostolic Nuncio Christophe Pierre] that we are not only to be disciples but to be missionaries. So let’s unite as brothers and sisters in the Lord to give glory to Him and to spread the peace that He desires for this world.”

Bishop DeGrood says he’s here to pray, listen and learn. He admits there is much to learn as a “baby bishop,” as he refers to himself. He likes to interact and get to know people, so his self-effacing and open personality will serve him well while he develops from “baby bishop” into a fully developed and experienced bishop.

“We’re always going to be learning and the Lord’s constantly going to be calling, inviting us into deeper



## *Episcopal Ordination and Installation*

of the Most Reverend Donald E. DeGrood



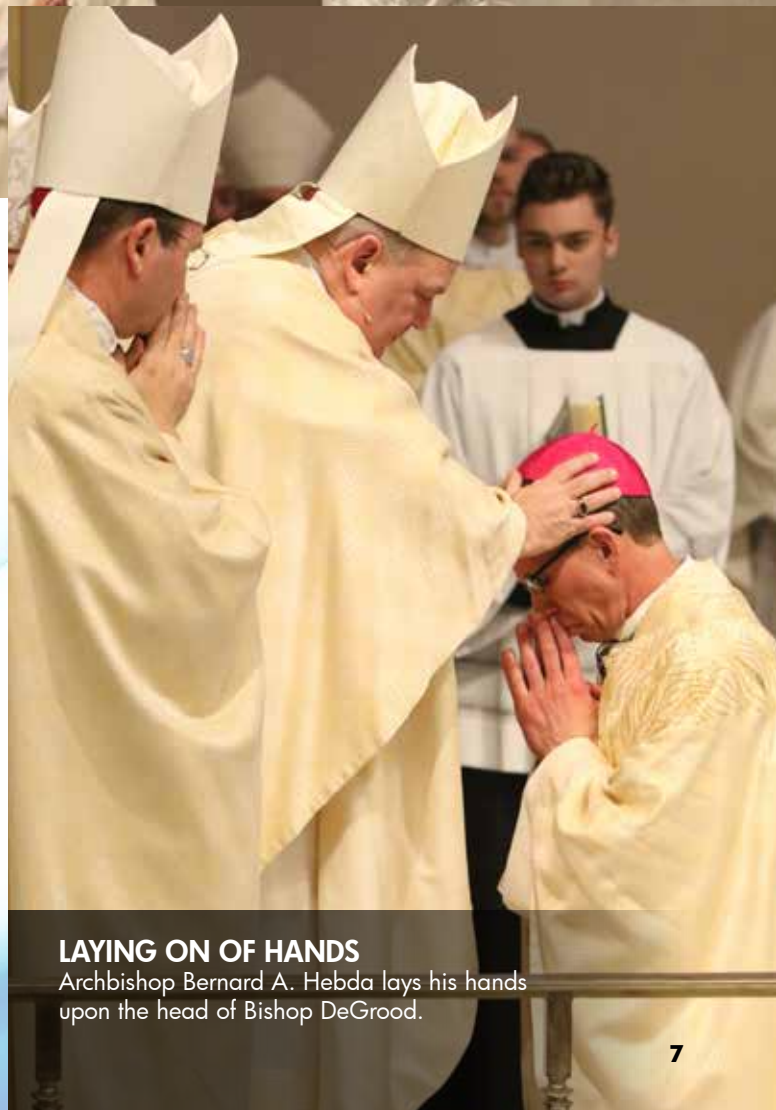
### **READING OF THE APOSTOLIC LETTER**

Archbishop Christophe Pierre reads the Apostolic Letter to the congregation and delivers some remarks for Bishop DeGrood.

friendship,” Bishop DeGrood said in a radio interview for Catholic Views recently. “The key is to really internalize the true love God has for us, regardless of how we think of ourselves...And we learn even to live out of our limitations and weaknesses in beautiful ways. It’s learning how to be a child in the Father’s arms.”

Bishop DeGrood’s top priority for the diocese is to help everyone grow in their relationship with God. He plans to further develop his priorities as he takes time to travel the diocese, talk with and get to know people, and settle in to life as a bishop. He will be praying and listening to those he meets to gain insights into the needs of his new diocese so he can serve the people in the ways that benefit them best.

To help us all get to know our new bishop better, Brianna Wingen from the communications staff put together a list of questions for Bishop DeGrood.



### **LAYING ON OF HANDS**

Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda lays his hands upon the head of Bishop DeGrood.





### PRAYER OF ORDINATION

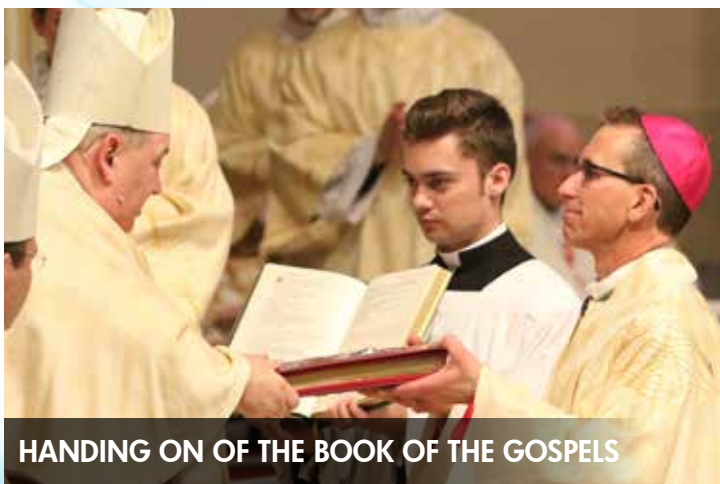
Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda invokes the power of the Holy Spirit upon Bishop DeGrood as he sings the Prayer of Ordination.

# Q&A

WITH BISHOP DONALD E. DEGROOD



### ANOINTING WITH SACRED CHRISM



### HANDING ON OF THE BOOK OF THE GOSPELS

Q

*Do you remember the first time you heard the Lord speak to you? How did that experience make you feel or impact you?*

A

I remember as a little kid when I was playing out in the woods behind one of our cattle barns, I felt a deep desire inside my heart (which I know wasn't something that came from me) to love God. God's love for me from my youth, and going forward, kept drawing me to want to be alone to receive His love and listen to what He wanted in my life. It wasn't that I always followed through with those good desires, but I know that it was something that wasn't created by me but something of God.

Q

*How has your family helped you prepare for life as a bishop?*

A

I was blessed with parents and extended family who practiced their Catholic faith. For example, I remember we went to 8:00 a.m. Mass every Sunday and then would hang around after Mass visiting with our grandpa, aunts, uncles and cousins. The





THE PRESENTATION OF THE PONTIFICAL INSIGNIA



witness of family that God was real and very important left a lasting impression on me and helped shape my spiritual life.

Q

*How has God prepared you for your role as bishop (over the course of time and the past couple months)?*

A

Through the years, ever since I was a little kid, He kept loving, guiding, forgiving and drawing me closer to himself. The closer I got, the more I was willing to trust He would provide for me. For example, as a kid I was afraid of speaking in front of people. Fear held me back from being interiorly free. Through the years as He kept drawing me to face that fear and trust him, my confidence and willingness to speak in front of people improved. This growing trust in God enabled me to say “yes” to His clear call for me to be a priest and now a bishop.

Q

*What do you love most about the Church?*

A

I love that the Catholic Church is the Church Jesus started. We can trace our roots directly back to Jesus and even back to the Old Testament. Seeing how God has worked through history, both in the Old and New Testament as well as today, it is such an amazing gift to be part of a church where God is the one in charge and leading the church. The Church is not just some human invention but divinely inspired and directed by God.

Q

*What is something about your relationship with Christ that continually surprises you?*

A

No matter what, God always forgives us because He loves us unconditionally. To have a God who keeps surprising us with gifts of love, forgiveness and grace is truly an amazing thing. I continually wonder when I’ll be surprised again by His grace. I see it as something to look forward to every day.



Bishop DeGrood greets Tesfay Anday, representing the Kunama Catholic community in Sioux Falls



Bishop DeGrood's mother and brother present the gifts



Archbishop Hebda, Bishop Cozzens, Bishop DeGrood, Bishop Emeritus Swain



*With a wide demographic (both generational and cultural) in South Dakota, what are some ways you feel called to reach out to the faithful of the Diocese of Sioux Falls to keep them active, engaged and yearning for more intimacy with the Lord?*



The primary way I hope to continue to reach out to **EVERYONE** in our diocese is to pray for them. After I received a very clear grace from God to say “yes” to become your bishop, He placed a desire on my heart to pray for all of you, and so I did. Without the spiritual power that comes from God’s grace to draw us to himself, we are left to our own human limitations. With grace God reinvigorates us to love Him with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength. Secondly, I want to get out and meet people across the diocese as soon as I reasonably can. That is why we planned regional

I

meetings for me to meet all the people and clergy who are able to join us for these regional meetings.



*How do you want to reach those who are searching for the Lord?*



I hope to continue to pray that God will dispose their hearts to find Him. I also hope to use the many means of communication available today to help connect with anyone who is searching for the Lord. Through teaching, preaching, bulletin articles and interactions with each other, we all can draw closer to the Lord.



*What are a couple books, or other resources, you would recommend to someone, Catholic or non-Catholic, desiring to know more about the Church, the Church’s authority, doctrine, dogmas, the saints, the Mass, or history?*



Oh, it’s hard to pick just a few, but books like *Rome Sweet Home* by Scott Hahn about his journey into the Catholic Faith is an inspiring witness of a man seeking the Lord and finding Him in a profound way in the Catholic Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church is a great place to learn about the faith. Some find the lives of the saints helpful resources or even books on the spiritual life like those by Fr. Timothy Gallagher. Of course, one can’t beat the Bible when it comes to the best book ever because it is the Word of God.



*What was the highlight/most memorable moment of your ad limina trip?*



Certainly meeting Pope Francis was one of them because he is the successor of St. Peter. However, I also really enjoyed spending time with our seminarians from Sioux Falls, the young adult pilgrims from the St. Paul/Minneapolis archdiocese,



and the bishops I traveled with. The graces I received when I was there praying were especially powerful.

Q

*What is your favorite quote, book or verse of the Bible?*

A

One of my favorite Scripture passages is Mark 12:30-31, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is you shall love your neighbor as yourself." I love this passage because Jesus calls it the greatest commandment. If we learn how to receive love from God and love others and ourselves with His divine love, we find what our hearts are longing for.

Q

*How can we help you adjust/feel welcome?*

A

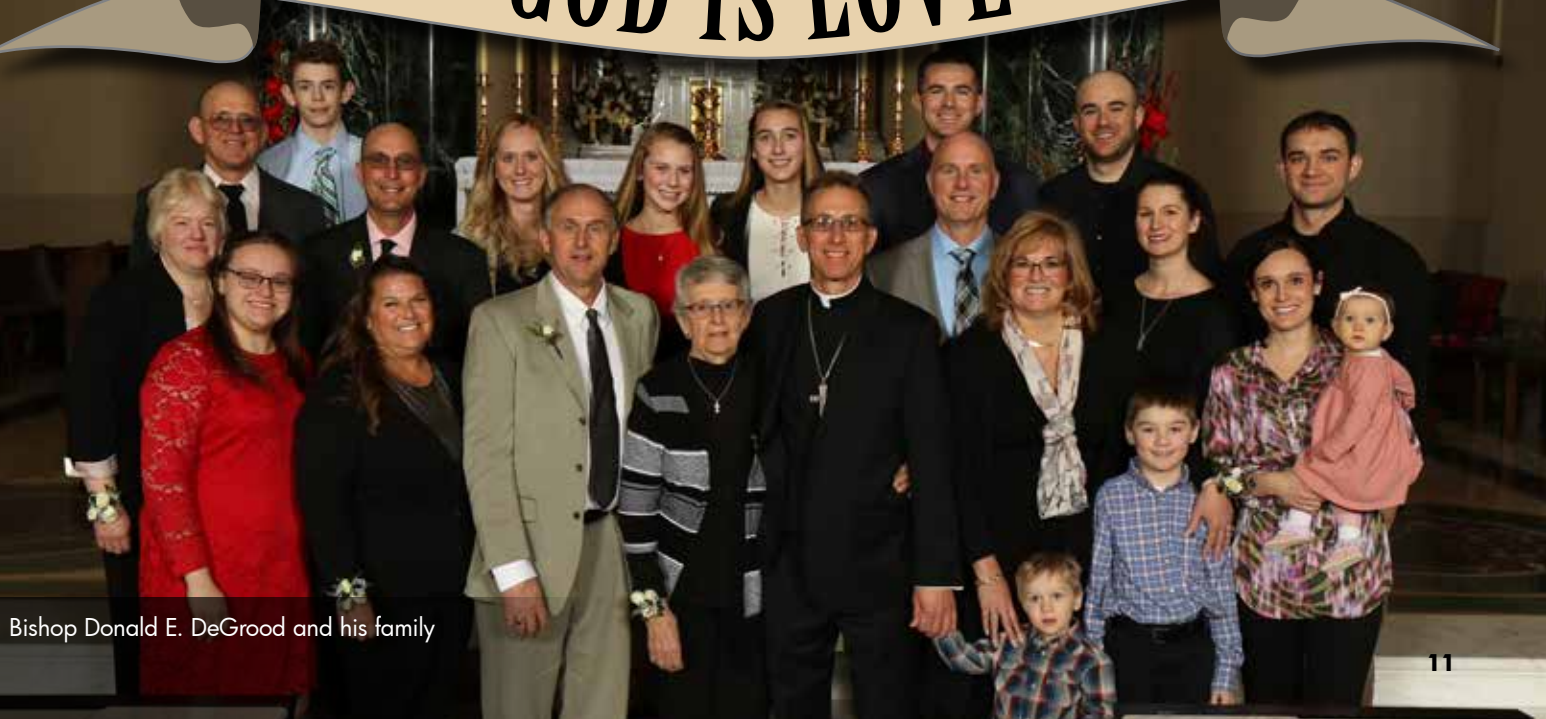
I have felt very welcomed in my short time so far in South Dakota. Your prayers that I will be a holy bishop are greatly appreciated because I know from experience I need God's grace, and when He provides it and I am open to it, He does great things in the lives of others and in mine.



Mass of Thanksgiving at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, MN



## GOD IS LOVE



Bishop Donald E. DeGrood and his family

# Do something radical during Lent this year

**O**ur Lenten practice of penance is all about conversion. Personal conversion is never a once and for all experience. The entire Christian life is a process of conversion—turning towards God and meeting Him as he comes to us each day.

Lent is an opportunity for us to focus more closely on this work of personal conversion and making ourselves open to change. The three disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are age-old practices that have consistently helped members of the Church grow closer to the Lord. The fundamental purpose of Lent is to help us love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, and with all our strength (Mark 12:30).

Every year people make the conscious decision to break patterns of sin and old ways of life. We pray, fast and give alms because those are the direct instructions from Jesus in Matthew 6 on how to grow closer to our father in heaven.

Prayer is one of the most easily recognizable practices for people of faith, but it does not mean it comes easy. Distractions, worldly calamity and the pressures of daily life can interrupt the prayer habits of the most devout person. Lent is a time when we recommit ourselves to frequent and regular prayer.

It's also an opportunity to enter into any number of prayer practices that can help us in the process of conversion. Daily Mass, eucharistic adoration, stations of the cross, the rosary, chaplets, vocal prayers, meditations, Lectio Divina, Liturgy of the Hours, and simple short prayers and conversations with God throughout the day are all magnificent ways to pray. One of the most holy people I know only prays the words "Jesus, mercy" all throughout the day. What is most essential for the Christian life is to pray each day.

Fasting is a Lenten discipline that is easily misunderstood. In the broad sense, fasting is any act of self-denial and a decision not to give in to the whim of the moment to our desires, appetites and passions. Fasting is an exercise of freedom from our senses, which helps us grow in our dependence on God who is the source of our strength to avoid temptation.

The Church requires very little of us in



Father Timothy Smith, pastor at Holy Cross Parish (Ipswich), Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish (Leola), and St. Thomas the Apostle Parish (Roscoe). (Photo by Lynn Thares)

terms of fasting. Two days a year, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, are technical days of fasting. That means we have only one major cooked meal in the day. In addition we abstain, which means not eating meat on those days. We also abstain from meat on Fridays in Lent to sharpen our resolve to be converted.

Fasting for spiritual renewal throughout Lent can include making the resolve to simply eat less, and when we do eat, choose basic and simple foods. Cut out expensive and unnecessary snacks. Make yourself uncomfortable by buying generic foods or the cheap stuff. This has the added benefit of reminding us that there are plenty of people in the world who do not get the luxury items we take for granted.

Almsgiving helps us shake off selfishness. Think of all the money you might spend on hobbies and non-essential items. Make the resolve this Lent to take that amount of money and give it to the poor.

Almsgiving is a great way to repent for sins. One time I was battling a specific grudge, and I was so disgusted at my own selfishness that I drove to the Missionaries of Charity convent and just gave the

sisters all the money in my wallet. I did not have a lot of money at the time, but I wanted to be converted so badly that I would rather be broke than have money and be selfish. This Lent do something radical to give alms to the poor and break the old patterns of selfishness in your life.

For my parishes this Lent, I am encouraging a special kind of fasting—fasting from screen time. The modern world provides plenty of temptation for time wasting with our digital devices. I have observed how much screen time on the phone, television and computer is affecting our families and our Church as a whole. Having served in the city and now in the rural parts of the diocese, there is no escaping the temptations that come from too much screen time with digital media.

The connection to phones and digital devices may be one of the more difficult things to separate yourself from this Lent. Be bold and ask Jesus to help you and your family put family time and prayer time ahead of screen time. God will help you fall deeper in love with him this Lent and shake off the sluggishness of sin and vice.



# An explanation of the new bishop's coat of arms

## The Seal of the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls

In the seal there are three symbols: flowing water, a cross on a staff and a snake wound around the staff of the cross. The flowing water indicates the Sioux River upon which the Diocese is established and the cathedral city is located. The cross stands for the Catholic Church, which is located on the banks of the Sioux. The snake wound around the staff of the cross indicates the efforts of the Church to counteract evil by bringing the "Good News" of the Gospel to the people of the plains. Taken together the symbolism of the Seal of the Diocese of Sioux Falls is this: "This is the Church in the land of the Sioux by the waters of the Big Sioux River."

## Bishop DeGrood's Coat of Arms

### The Colors

Blue symbolizes Mary. It also points to the "Land of 10,000 Lakes" in Minnesota where Bishop DeGrood was born and was ordained a priest. It is also a reminder of the blue color that is used on the seal of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Green symbolizes the Earth, where Christ came down from heaven to save us. Black on the cross reminds us of Jesus's sacrificial love and that every disciple is called to die to self so they can live for Christ: "The grain that falls to the ground and dies bears much fruit" (John 12:24).

### The Symbols

The symbols represent both the humanity and the divinity of Christ and how that relates to the human and spiritual components of humanity. The carpenter's square and the sheaf of wheat represent the human aspect of Christ and humanity. The letter *M*, chalice and stole represent the sanctified elements of divine life that flow from God into humanity through grace.

**The Black Cross** reflects the central theme of the sacrificial love of God. This was chosen because of the motto, "God is Love," expressed in 1 John 4:8 and further explained in 1 John 4:10 "In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins." It is also a reminder that the fullness of life is found when it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me (Gal. 2:19-21), for the Christian journey is always



to be about conforming ourselves to Christ crucified (Phil. 3:10). As missionary disciples we are reminded in John 14:13: "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends." Every saint, like Mary, St. Joseph, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. John of the Cross, St. Theresa of Avila, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. John Vianney, received the love of God and shared it with God and others in a sacrificial manner, which serve as an inspiration to Bishop DeGrood. These saints and every disciple are called to follow Jesus's example of sacrificial love through humble service as witnessed by Jesus when he washed his disciples feet before celebrating the last supper: "I have given you an example that you also should do as I have done for you" (John 13:15).

**The Sheaf of Wheat** is composed of five stalks of wheat. The five heads of wheat are the fruit of the sacrificial marital love (5 sons) that came forth from God and Bishop DeGrood's parents. Having grown up on a farm near Faribault, Minnesota, and appointed to be the bishop of the largely rural Diocese of Sioux Falls, agricultural imagery is a reflection of his agricultural roots and future ministry. The wheat stem symbolizes St. Thomas Aquinas who, at the end of his life, after having received a vision of Christ on the cross, turned to his *Summa Theologica* and said, "It is but straw." This is to be a reminder that all we do in this world is simply straw compared with the amazing love God has for us.

**The Chalice and Confessional Stole** represent the ministry of St. John Vianney, a farm boy who became the patron saint of parish priests, co-patron of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, St. John Vianney College Seminary and personal patron of Bishop DeGrood. The Chalice is to show the centrality of the Eucharist (sacrifice of the Mass) as the source and summit of the Christian life (CCC 1324). The stole is to display the importance of God's mercy extended to those in need of healing.

**The Carpenter's Square** symbolizes St. Joseph as the foster father of Jesus, patron of the Diocese of Sioux Falls, and Bishop DeGrood's deceased father. It is also a reminder of the importance and dignity of human labor reflected in the many generations of immigrant laborers in the United States. It is a remembrance that Jesus was born into a human family, and that we too are invited into the life of the Holy Family in Nazareth. The carpenter's square also is a reminder to Bishop DeGrood of his father's labor of love through prayer, family life, manual labor on the farm, and promoting Christian values. The angle of the carpenter's square has the meaning of a rafter which holds the roof of the church, having then a meaning of protection. This, coupled with the letter *M* and the cross is to be a full representation of the Holy Family in Bishop DeGrood's coat of arms.

**The Letter M** is a direct tie to the papal coat of arms of Pope St. John Paul II. He was the pope who most influenced the vocation and priestly service of Bishop DeGrood. It is also a reminder of the importance of the motto of Pope St. John Paul II, "Totus Tuus," (all yours) which reflects the central role Mary had in the life of Pope St. John Paul II, as well as Bishop DeGrood's severely-disabled uncle Donnie Noy, who inspired Bishop DeGrood to rely upon Mary's spiritual motherhood. The letter *M*, along with the carpenter's square, are simple symbols to display that the life of Nazareth, the life of every Christian, is to be one of great humility, simplicity and love with absolute reliance on God, so we can be like Mary who allowed the ordinary things of life to become extraordinary through God's grace.

# A variety of celebrations high



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## UPCOMING RETREATS

### SILENT RETREATS

#### Men's 2020

March 19-22    October 15-18  
June 25-28    November 19-22  
August 20-23  
September 24-27

#### Women's 2020

March 5-8    September 17-20  
May 7-10    October 1-4  
June 18-21    November 5-8  
August 13-16

### DAY OF RECOLLECTION

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

**March 17: St. Cardinal Newman and the Meaning of Conscience**  
- directed by Msgr. Richard Mahowald

**April 14: St. Cardinal Newman and Belief in Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist**  
- directed by Msgr. Richard Mahowald

### SPECIAL RETREATS

**March 13-15: Inner Healing Retreat**  
- directed by Mike Snyder & Jane Barz

**April 4: One Day Silent Retreat**  
- directed by Fr. Joe Vogel

## CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN

- directed by Emily Leedom

**May 15-16**

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# Light Catholic Schools Week



4



5



6



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Photos by number: (1) Students from Holy Spirit School (Sioux Falls) plant "seeds of faith" based on Mark 4:26-34. (2) Bishop Emeritus Paul Swain treated St. Katharine Drexel School (Sioux Falls) students to pizza for achieving blue ribbon status. (3) St. Thomas More School (Brookings) students perform as a class. (4) Bishop Emeritus Swain celebrates All-School Mass at the Elmen Center. (5) Members of the Aberdeen Roncalli senior class consider Bishop Emeritus Swain part of their class because he became bishop when they started kindergarten. They all move on to new phases of life at the same time. (6) Students from St. Mary School (Sioux Falls) dressed up as their "everyday hero." (7) Students at Holy Trinity (Huron) were treated to an ice skating party. (8) St. Thomas School (Madison) students enjoyed swimming. (9) Dell Rapids St. Mary School students had fun sledding.

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# March for Life pilgrimage makes an impression



Top photo: Youth from the diocese gather for a photo during the march. (Photo by Catherine Knapp) Bottom photo: Diocesan Director of Youth Discipleship and Evangelization Eric Gallagher snapped a photo of the crowd marching behind him.

The 2020 March for Life in Washington D.C. attracted tens of thousands of marchers, including 69 youth and 31 adults from the Diocese of Sioux Falls, to voice opposition to abortion, euthanasia and other life issues.

Porter Walz, member of St. Joseph Parish in Wessington Springs, said the most powerful part of the event was the march down Constitution Avenue. He went to the march to be part of the conversation and bring attention to this critical topic.

"This isn't some five-day retreat and you just go back home," Walz said. "Everyone came to that march because they wanted the right thing for life, and we all came in unity."

The march was impactful for Walz because he was able to stand with thousands of other people who are working toward the same goal.

"I went to the March for Life because I wanted to be part of something that needs to be talked about more," he said. "We all need to bring attention to the fact that life should be cherished and accepted how it was naturally brought to be."

Eric Gallagher, director of Youth Discipleship and Evangelization for the diocese, said the highlight for him was seeing the sheer number of people and the "joy and prayerful disposition through which they marched."

"While there is much work to be done and lives at stake, this pilgrimage inspires me each year to entrust all of it to God first," Gallagher said.

## STM NOW HIRING

St. Thomas More in Brookings seeks applicants for three full-time positions available for the 2020-2021 fiscal year:

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If you are interested in any of these positions, you may find the job descriptions on the parish website, [stmbrookings.org](http://stmbrookings.org), or you may contact Fr. Terry Anderson, pastor, for a job description at the parish address:

Fr. Terence R. Anderson, St. Thomas More Parish,  
1700 8th Street South, Brookings, SD 57006,  
605-692-4361, [frterenceanderson@sfcatholic.org](mailto:frterenceanderson@sfcatholic.org)

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# Couples take time for each other and the Lord

Couples from across the diocese enjoyed a day together for Reckless: A Catholic Couple's Conference. Put on by the diocesan Office of Marriage and Family, 200 couples were treated to speakers to help them strengthen their marriages, entertainment (including Dueling Pianos), lunch and adoration. Speakers included Ennie and Cana Hickman and Deacon James Keating along with Dr. Chris Burgwald, director of Adult Discipleship and Evangelization, and Emily Leedom, director of Marriage, Family, and Respect Life. (Photos by Becca Ekeren)



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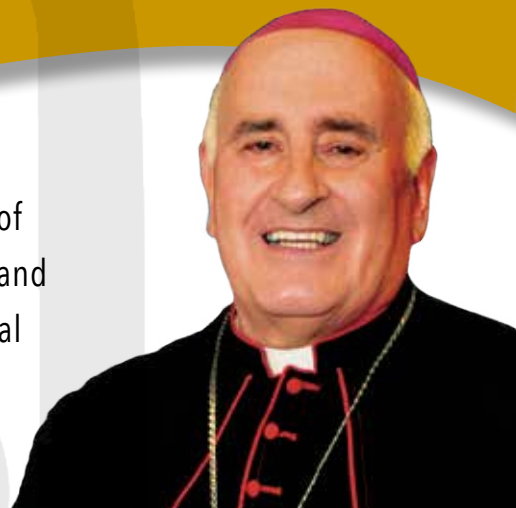


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## WORDS OF WISDOM

### FEBRUARY 29, 2020

ABBHEY OF THE HILLS RETREAT CENTER

A book retreat with Dr. Chris Burgwald discussing Dr. Edward Sri's book, *Who Am I to Judge?*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT**  
[www.sfcatholic.org/wow](http://www.sfcatholic.org/wow)

## Bishop Hoch Scholarships help make private college attainable

Private Catholic colleges offer great opportunities for their students. To make the tuition more affordable, the Diocese of Sioux Falls offers the Bishop Hoch Scholarship program, a \$1,000 scholarship given to one student in each of its seven deaneries every year.

The scholarships can be used to attend either Mount Marty College in Yankton or Presentation College in Aberdeen in the next academic year. The awards can be used by new students, current students and non-traditional students.

Margaret Barnett, parishioner at St. John the Baptist in Wagner, was awarded one of the scholarships last year. She is majoring in biology at Mount Marty College in Yankton and says the scholarship has helped her focus on her studies in-

stead of worrying about tuition all the time.

She chose Mount Marty after a visit to the campus. It felt peaceful and like a good place to grow her faith.

"I felt the love and the prayer of the sisters just kind of flow down to the campus," she said. "That's why I got excited about going there and decided to go to a private school."

Once the decision was made, paying for it became her next priority. The Bishop Hoch Scholarship helped to make it possible.

"I'm just so grateful because it's one less stress off my shoulders," she said.

To apply for the scholarship, visit [sfcatholic.org/catholic-schools/bishop-hoch-scholarship](http://sfcatholic.org/catholic-schools/bishop-hoch-scholarship). Deadline is March 15.



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DELL RAPIDS – John and Colette Zeig will celebrate their 50th anniversary on March 7. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



MITCHELL – Len and Patty Scheich celebrated their 40th anniversary on February 15. They have 3 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Tom and Shannon Grimmond will celebrate their 25th anniversary on March 25. They have 3 children and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Alvin and Diana Andera will celebrate their 50th anniversary on March 14. They have 6 children, 14 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Gregg and Kathy Klatt will celebrate their 50th anniversary on March 20. They have 3 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.

## ANNIVERSARY SUBMISSIONS

Send a color photo, your anniversary news and a self-addressed, stamped envelope by **March 16** for inclusion in the April 2020 edition to:

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



TYNDALL – Dennis and Mary Plihal celebrated their 50th anniversary on February 7. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Leo the Great Parish.



WEBSTER – Don and Darlene Rumpca will celebrate their 60th anniversary on March 28. They have 4 children (1 deceased), 4 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild and are members of Christ the King Parish.

Reverend James P. Burns, IVD, Ph.D., president of **Saint Mary's University of Minnesota**, along with the Saint Mary's community

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## Bishop Emeritus Swain celebrates last confirmations

Bishop Paul Swain confirmed candidates from several parishes during his final confirmations for the Diocese of Sioux Falls. Photo left: Bishop Swain confers the Holy Spirit on a confirmand from St. John Paul II Parish, Harrisburg. Below left: Confirmation candidates from St. Patrick, Montrose, and St. Ann, Humboldt, with Bishop Swain and Father Bob Krantz. Below right: Confirmands from St. Lambert and Christ the King Parishes, Sioux Falls, and St. John Paul II Parish, Harrisburg, present the gifts to Bishop Swain.

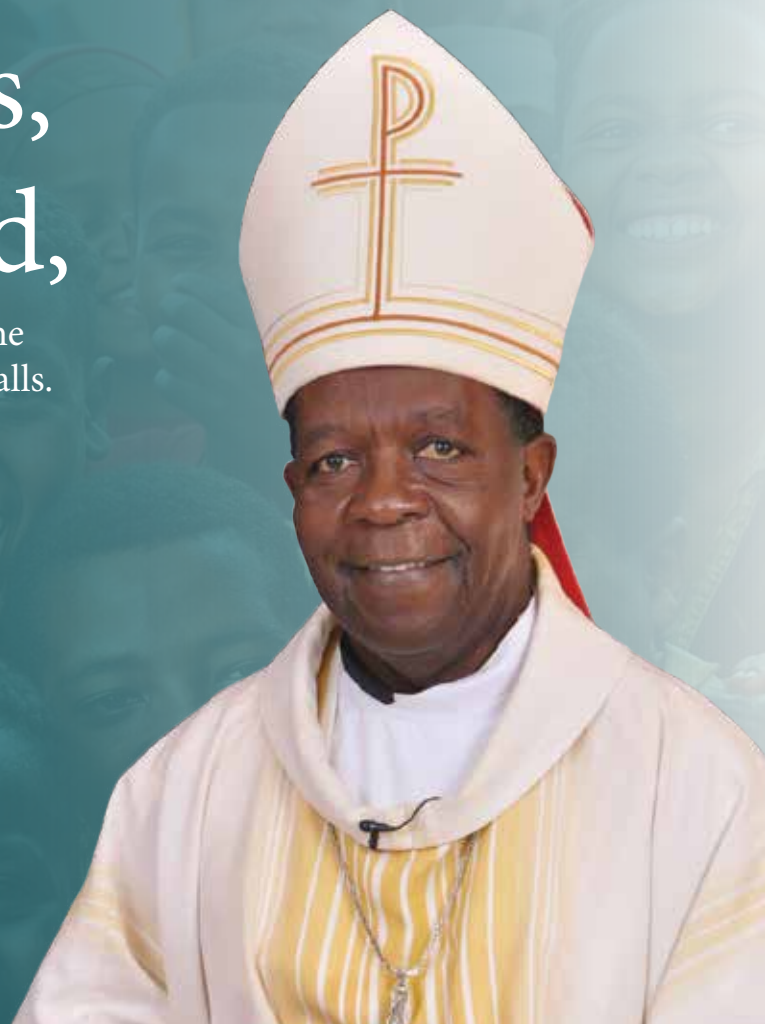


## Congratulations, Bishop DeGrood,

on your recent ordination and installation as the  
ninth bishop for the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls.

---

**Bishop Nicholas Djomo**  
and the people of the Diocese of Tshumbe



## Camp Sydney: helping children and families deal with grief

Catholic Family Services will offer Camp Sydney for the third year at Broom Tree Retreat Center June 12-14. This non-denominational camp focuses on helping children and their families cope with grief after the death of a loved one.

Camp Sydney is a free camp for kids ages 7-17 and their families.

It features group time to share their grief experiences and understand they are not alone.

Parents and guardians will spend time in their own grief program and also interact with their child during breakout times.

Fun is a big part of the camp. Games and activities are used to enhance the grieving process and to offer lighthearted times for laughter and to build hope for the future. Activities include a scavenger hunt, games, art and wood working projects, swimming, camp fire, music, prizes and fellowship.

Parents and kids have seen significant improvement in their lives from attending Camp Sydney. Many parents in past camps said the activities and

opportunities to be with kids who have had similar experiences helped their kids work through their grief.

The parents also appreciated the time they spent on their own grief journey working with Dr. Marcie Moran of Catholic Family Services.

"I loved having both time to interact with our kids and kid-free time to interact with adults, share stories and have mom and dad time," one parent said last year.

Mary Weber, camp director and counselor with Catholic Family Services, is ready for another great camp this year.

"The number one request from campers is they want to stay longer," Weber said.

The grieving process is different for everyone. Learning to cope and adjust to a new reality of life will provide hope for a more peaceful family life to come.

Each family will stay in their own cabin for the weekend of camp. To register or learn more about Camp Sydney, call 605-988-3775, email [cfs@sfcatholic.org](mailto:cfs@sfcatholic.org), or visit [www.sfcatholic.org/cfs/campsydney](http://www.sfcatholic.org/cfs/campsydney).



## Gift of Hope event benefits Catholic Family Services

The annual Gift of Hope event is offering a different type of entertainment this year—Christian stand-up comedian Jennifer Fulwiler. The event is set for Saturday, March 21 at 7 p.m. at the Bishop O'Gorman High School Performing Arts Center in Sioux Falls.

Presented by the Catholic Community Foundation of Eastern South Dakota, the event benefits Catholic Family Services' (CFS) Gift of Hope Fund, which helps advance the mission of CFS to provide various counseling and adoption services.

This isn't Fulwiler's first time in Sioux Falls. She's made several trips here for speaking engagements and even kicked off her new comedy tour here in 2019. She loves the friendly people and beauty of the area.

Born and raised an atheist, Fulwiler and her husband converted to the Catholic Church together after much reading, research and soul searching. Since then, she has listened to where God has lead her and found many surprises along the way. The biggest one was her recent leap into comedy.

Her humor revolves around

her family (she's a mom to six children), living in the suburbs, and trying to juggle work and family life. She sneaks a bit about her conversion and faith into the mix as well, seeing herself as a new kind of evangelist.

"I think of it as doing special ops evangelization," Fulwiler says. "Not just for Catholicism per say, but for the culture of life and witnessing to this culture that tells women that family and children are a

burden. I provide a witness that there's really something beautiful, especially for women, in family life and in connection."

She feels her role is to share her story and leave the heavy teaching and theology to other people. This way, she can reach others who might not otherwise be exposed to what a Catholic life looks like.

"When you turn your life over to God and fully embrace the Catholic faith and let the Lord lead you, your life will get very interesting very quickly. Our God is a God of surprises."

For more information about the Gift of Hope or to purchase tickets, visit [ccfesd.org](http://ccfesd.org) or call 605-988-3765.



### SPIRITUALITY OFFERINGS

NEW LIFE IN THE PASCHAL MYSTERY RETREAT  
March 13, 7pm-8:30pm & March 14, 9am-8pm

CALL OF THE SOUL  
March 27, 7pm to 8:30pm & March 28, 9am-3:30pm

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**Recitation of the rosary planned**

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

**Women's Retreat at St. Lambert Parish**

**Saturday, March 7** - Women's Retreat with guest speaker Gina Bauer, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Lambert Parish, Sioux Falls. Gina captivates and engages her audience with lively stories and humor. She conveys Catholic teachings in a compassionate, down-to-earth style that reaches the hearts of listeners. Cost is \$30 which includes snack and lunch. Registration forms are available on our website: [www.stlambertparish.org](http://www.stlambertparish.org) or for more information email [seedsofhopestl@gmail.com](mailto:seedsofhopestl@gmail.com).

**Search for Christian Maturity retreat set**

**Mar. 6-8** - Held at Holy Spirit Parish, Sioux Falls, the retreat is a student led program featuring talks, skits, music, opportunities for confession, and celebration of Mass. A priest serves as spiritual director for the weekend. High school and college age students and adults are welcome. Contact 605-371-1478, [SiouxFallsSearch@gmail.com](mailto:SiouxFallsSearch@gmail.com) or [www.siouxfallssearch.org](http://www.siouxfallssearch.org) for information.

**Koinonia Retreat set in Milbank**

**March 20-22** - St. Lawrence Parish, Milbank, will host a Koinonia Retreat. For more information or to register, contact the parish office at 605-432-9122 or [cradermacher@sfcatholic.org](mailto:cradermacher@sfcatholic.org).

**Seminar series at St. Therese Parish**

**Thursday, March 26** - St. Therese Parish, Sioux Falls, is hosting a seminar series, "Created in His Image and Likeness: Living the Christian Life in the 21st Century," to discuss how we can care for the least of our brothers. March's seminar will be "Caminando Junto: Walking Together" on the challenges of immigration led by Sister Janet Horstman, PBVM, beginning at 7 p.m. at St. Therese Parish, 901 N. Tahoe, Sioux Falls. Free admission.

**Spiritual Bootcamp Parish Retreat**

**April 3-5** - St. Benedict Parish, Yankton, and Yahweh Shalom Prayer Group are sponsoring a Spiritual Bootcamp Parish Retreat beginning Friday at 6 p.m. and concluding Sunday at noon at St. Benedict Parish. Led by Jessica Navin of Focus Ministries and Father Scott Traynor. For more information, contact the parish office at 605-664-6214 or Jane Barz at 605-940-4101.

**Catholic Daughters host luncheon**

**Saturday, April 25** - Catholic Daughters Court St. Christina #2336 (Lennox, Canton, Worthing and Tea) present "Share the Light and Invite" salad luncheon and card party from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Nicholas Parish hall in Tea. There will be a raffle and door prizes as well. Tickets are \$10. To reserve your spot, please call Diane Biver at 360-4679.

**Catholic Family Services**

**April 4**/Grieving the loss of a loved one. One day non-denominational retreat for adults who have lost a loved one and are trying to understand and reconcile their grief. Saturday at the Catholic Family Services office at 523 N. Duluth Ave., Sioux Falls. Directed by Dr. Marcie Moran and staff. Call 988-3775 or 1-800-700-7867 or email [cfs@sfcatholic.org](mailto:cfs@sfcatholic.org) for more information or to register. Registrations limited.

**April 14-May 19**/Grieving loss from suicide. A six-week non-denominational program directed by Dr. Marcie Moran held Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Catholic Family Services, 523 N. Duluth Ave., Sioux Falls. A program for families who have lost a loved one from suicide. The suddenness of the death, the confusion and the painful reactions are significant topics of the program. This is a time when professional support is needed. Cost is a donation. Call 988-3775 or email [cfs@sfcatholic.org](mailto:cfs@sfcatholic.org) with questions or to register.

**Sacred Heart Monastery**

**Contemplative Morning**/The Benedictine Peace Center, Yankton, hosts a morning of contemplative prayer. For more information or to register for the March 28 session, contact S. Doris Oberembt at [doberembt@mtmc.edu](mailto:doberembt@mtmc.edu) or call 605-668-6292.

**April 9-12**/Paschal Triduum Retreat. Enter the silence and experience the rich liturgies of Holy Week with the monastic community of the Benedictine Sisters. This retreat begins 4:30 p.m. April 9, Holy Thursday, and ends with noon dinner on Easter Sunday. For more information visit, [www.yanktonbenedictines.org/triduum-retreat/](http://www.yanktonbenedictines.org/triduum-retreat/). To register, e-mail [BenedictinePeaceCtr@yanktonbenedictines.org](mailto:BenedictinePeaceCtr@yanktonbenedictines.org) or call 605-668-6292 before April 5.

**April 18**/Centering Prayer, introductory workshop led by Irene Chang and Deacon Dennis Davis. Contact S. Doris Oberembt to register: [doberembt@yanktonbenedictines.org](mailto:doberembt@yanktonbenedictines.org) or 605-668-6022.

**Silent Retreats** at the Benedictine Peace Center/Come for the number of days that fit your schedule. Retreatants may request a spiritual director and are welcome to join the monastic community for Liturgy of the Hours and Eucharist. Contact [benedictinepeacectr@mtmc.edu](mailto:benedictinepeacectr@mtmc.edu) or 605-668-6292 or visit [www.yanktonbenedictines.org/Center](http://www.yanktonbenedictines.org/Center).

**Parish Dinners/Socials**

**Fish Fry Friday's**: Holy Spirit Parish (Sioux Falls) Knights of Columbus will be serving fried battered fish, potato patty, spaghetti with red sauce and cheese pizza on all Friday's during Lent. Serving from 6-7 p.m. after Stations of the Cross. Free will offering.

**March 8**: Church of the Epiphany, Epiphany, will host its annual sausage supper in the parish hall. Serving whole hog sausage, mashed potatoes and gravy, kraut, baked beans, salad and cake from 3-7 p.m. Ages 12 and older are \$10. Ages 6-11 are \$5. Preschool and younger are free.

**March 13**: St. George Parish, Hartford, fish fry, serving from 5-7:30 p.m. at the parish center, 408 S. Western Ave., Hartford. Free will offering.

**March 15**: St. Patrick Parish, Montrose, ham dinner, serving from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the parish hall.

**March 22**: St. Thomas School, Madison, annual pork loin dinner and live auction in the school gym. Serving begins at 11 a.m. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$6 for kids 5-12. Live auction begins at noon and is hosted by Chuck Sutton. Auction items include family getaways, sporting event tickets, donated items and more. Proceeds go to St. Thomas School.

**March 29**: St. Mary School, Dell Rapids, carnival and auction. Lunch and carnival begin at 11 a.m. Live and silent auctions begin at noon. St. Mary School, 512 State Ave., Dell Rapids. For more information, visit [facebook.com/St-Mary-Catholic-School-Carnival-Auction-177605032271194](https://facebook.com/St-Mary-Catholic-School-Carnival-Auction-177605032271194) or email [SMHScarnival1@gmail.com](mailto:SMHScarnival1@gmail.com).

**April 19**: St. Mary Parish, Sioux Falls, will host a turkey dinner Sunday 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Take-out meals available from 10:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Cost is \$9 for adults and \$5 for kids 4-11. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time for \$8 at the church office after weekend Masses on March 28 and 29 and April 4 and 5, and after the Saturday, 4 p.m. Mass on April 18. Call Judy for extra tickets at 339-1035.

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