



Monthly publication for the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls

May 2017

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

A SPECIAL
MOMENT

SIX TO BE ORDAINED

I would not be a Catholic today without having received the grace of God's mercy



Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you (falsely) because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. (Mt 3:12)

Recently a research report was issued entitled “In Response to Persecution” by the Under Caesar’s Sword project. It concludes from a three year study that 60% of cases of global religious persecution and 80% of acts of religious discrimination are directed against Christians. In 2015 7,100 Christians died for their faith including by beheadings and other abhorrent means.

In part thanks to the Knights of Columbus the U.S. State Department has labeled the persecution against Christians and other religious minorities in Iraq and Syria as genocide, the intentional effort to exterminate all Christians.

This evil mission was carried into Egypt when on Palm Sunday just a few weeks ago two Coptic Christian churches were severely damaged by ISIS suicide bombers killing 45 people. In Nigeria one anti-Christian group has “destroyed over 200 churches, internally displaced 1.5 million people, created 200,000 refugees, inflicted 13,000 deaths, and kidnapped and made sex slaves of Christian women.” Similar evil actions are occurring in Asia, Europe and the Americas, even to a real though lesser degree in our own country

Cardinal Donald Wuerl in commenting on the report noted four responses we who do not face such physical persecution should undertake: 1. Make this horror better known, 2. Urge action by governments and agencies to respond to it especially the underlying causes such as poverty, 3. Support material and other assistance to those whose lives

have been threatened and disrupted, and 4. Pray for those suffering and for a conversion of heart for those inflicting such atrocities.

While piling in comparison to such painful and dehumanizing physical persecution, subtle forms of persecution exist in our own culture. For instance the condition that if a nurse is to offer a healing touch in certain hospitals that will only be permitted if the nurse assists in abortions even though it would violate religious belief and freedom of conscience. A person will be permitted to speak on a college campus but only if the speaker accepts a particular ideology even though it would violate religious belief and freedom of conscience. This list could go on to include government mandates, discriminatory regulations and media distortions. What ought to be our response to these subtle threats?

An interesting finding of this study is: “Christian responses to persecution are almost always nonviolent”. Our human tendency is to strike back. Not to do so takes courage and faith, virtues Jesus modeled in his Passion we just recalled in Holy Week. The willingness to forgo retribution is grounded in the Christian theology of redemptive suffering which includes standing for truth without compromise while exercising forgiveness not vengeance.

Saint John Paul II raised up the importance of this response by establishing Divine Mercy Sunday. He personally exhibited this virtue and calling while living under the brutal regimes of Nazi Germany and Soviet communism in his homeland of Poland. We just completed a Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis. He called us to show mercy to others because we are so in need of mercy ourselves. As Christ declared from the Cross, God’s mercy is ever present for us when we open our hearts to this grace. In response we ought to be instruments of that divine mercy in our relations with others.

Exercising mercy is hard when the evil one encourages us to strike out, to take an “eye for an eye”. Yet Pope Francis reminded us in his words on Divine Mercy Sunday:

“The Risen Jesus passed on to his Church, as its first task, his own mission to bring the concrete announcement of forgiveness to everyone. This visible sign of his mercy brings

with him the peace of the heart and the joy of the renewed encounter with the Lord.

“Well, we can know it through the experience of mercy! The latter opens the door of the mind to a better understanding of the mystery of God and of our personal existence.

“It makes us understand that violence, rancor, revenge make no sense, and that the first victim of this are those who experience these feelings because it deprives them of their dignity. Mercy also opens the door of the heart and allows us to express closeness, especially with those who are alone and marginalized, because it makes them feel like brothers and sisters and children of one Father.

“Let us never forget that mercy is the key-stone in the life of faith, and the concrete form in which we give visibility to the resurrection of Jesus.”

What forgiveness and mercy allow is to own up for our sins and mistakes, learn from them, and use these hard earned lessons in future endeavors.

If we are stuck in our past sins as some demand, then Peter would still be paying the price for denying Our Lord three times. St. Paul would still be paying the price for persecuting the first Christians including the fatal attack on St. Stephen. The sacrament of Penance, confession, would be an empty gesture.

The words of absolution state it so boldly:

‘God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.’

I would not be a Catholic today and certainly not a priest without having received the grace of God’s mercy for sins and mistakes of my past. On my episcopal coat of arms is a symbol of that forgiveness: a golden sun which reflects the Son. It is a continuing reminder of this undeserved gift.

That freeing experience I seek to bring to my reactions to circumstances and the decisions I make not only as a bishop but as a person and as a brother in Christ. This approach often results in bafflement or frustration, or outright criticism. I do the best I can to leave judgment to God. This skeptical reaction is a price worth paying in response to the price our Lord suffered on the Cross for me and for all us sinners who are invited despite our failings to become saints. One mission of priests is to offer healing and hope and new life in Christ.

“Let us never forget that mercy is the key-stone in the life of faith, and the concrete form in which we give visibility to the resurrection of Jesus.”

SCHEDULE

May

- 2 4:00 Mass with Tribunal and Chancery Personnel of the Province, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 3 11:30 Women Religious Community Leaders Annual Luncheon, the Bishop’s House, Sioux Falls
- 4 5:00 Shepherd’s Voice LIVE, Lamb Catholic Radio, Sioux Falls
- 5 4:00 Holy Mass with South Dakota Catholic Daughters, St. Benedict Parish, Yankton
- 6 5:00 Confirmation, Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Pierre
- 7 9:00 Confirmation, St. Ann Parish, Miller, St. Mary Parish, Highmore at Miller
- 12:00 Confirmation, Holy Trinity Parish, Huron
- 9 12:00 Pray at Planned Parenthood
- 10 11:30 Senior Priests Annual Luncheon, the Bishop’s House, Sioux Falls
- 13 9:00 Mass celebrating 50th Jubilee of Profession of Mother Marie Therese, OCD, Carmelite Monastery, Alexandria
- 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 14 11:00 Confirmation, Cathedral of Saint Joseph Parish, Sioux Falls
- 20 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 7:00 O’Gorman High School Graduation Mass and Commencement, Elmen Center, Augustana University, Sioux Falls
- 21 11:30 Confirmation, Immaculate Conception Parish, Watertown
- 2:00 Confirmation, Holy Name Parish, Watertown, Holy Rosary Parish, Kranzburg and St. John Parish, Castlewood at Holy Name Parish, Watertown
- 23 4:00 St. Francis House 30th Anniversary Picnic and Celebration
- 25 11:00 Totus Tuus Commissioning Mass, Sacred Heart Chapel, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 28 10:30 Confirmation, Christ the King Parish, Webster and Immaculate Conception Parish, Waubay in Webster
- 29 9:00 Memorial Day Mass, St. Michael Cemetery, Sioux Falls

June 2017

- 1 11:00 Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 2 11:00 Ordination to the Priesthood, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 3 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 8 5:00 Shepherd’s Voice LIVE, Lamb Catholic Radio, Sioux Falls

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

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

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

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



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Would it still be Easter if there was no Easter Candle?

At some point in the year, the pastor of a parish finds himself getting the church building ready for Ash Wednesday. The ashes are found hiding in the back of the sacristy cabinet and the containers to put them in are pulled out of storage, the purple vestments are readied and the purple altar clothes are put out.

The cross that will lead the parish throughout the season is dusted off and put out for devotion. And this pastor, flurrying through Mardi Gras with the details of the coming season, will begin to think about the days that are just five short weeks away.

The days of Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday, and leading to the Paschal Triduum is a whirlwind of preparation and planning, punctuated with hours in the confessional. It is a beautiful dance of a thousand steps, and a thing of joy. It, however, does not just happen without dealing with the details, and that is why a pastor begins thinking even before Lent begins.

The oil containers are cleaned, the Easter Candle and palms ordered, volunteers begin to be organized and scheduled, and the decorations planned for each day. It all happens and, when it happens, people come in to pray and don't give those details a single thought and that is the way it is supposed to be.

Until you walk into the office on the Monday of Holy Week and you ask, "Did we get the Easter Candle? Did it ever show up?" and everyone started to look at each other and this odd feeling starts to grow in your stomach. So we called the company from which we had ordered our candle weeks before and they said they would do some checking.

We received a phone call later telling us the candle we ordered was sent to Michigan by mistake and, somehow, got destroyed there; although I suspect someone has it stored in their basement so they can have a procession if the Lions ever win the Super Bowl. We were told a new candle could be shipped overnight to us, but it would not be the one we ordered, and would you please pick out an ugly, unwanted candle we happen to have on stock because no one wanted it in their church for a year?

Why, sure.

We ordered the candle and it was shipped and arrived on Holy Wednesday afternoon and the box was opened and it was too small. For a second, I had a thought, a strange thought I

had never thought before, ever. But after that thought, I began to work out new options; would it be possible to reuse last year's, now, stubby candle? Could I fancy it up? Is there time to order an even less desirable candle before Saturday evening?

We decided to start over and made a frantic call to our friends at Lux Candles in Ipswich, who assured us they could get us a fine, beautiful and noble candle by Friday morning. They kept their promise and it is beautiful and they saved our Easter Vigil. But I expected nothing less, their products are beautiful, fairly priced, locally made and always the highest quality.

Does this sound like a commercial for Lux Candles? It should, because it is; they have earned it.

So, after all these issues, everything that needed to arrive had arrived, the decorations were done, the thousand details completed and it was time to start the fire for the Vigil.

As we walked to the door of the church where the crowd had gathered around the fire, I briefly remembered the thought I had days before when we discovered our Easter Candle would not work. I was glad I did not really have to give it any thought; at least not until everything was done.

The thought I had never thought before was this, "Would it still be Easter if there was no Easter Candle?"

The obvious answer is, of course it would because Christ is Risen regardless, but when you are facing an Easter Candle-less Vigil, a pastor is not so sure. The candle is an important part of the ceremony and the life of the parish, it lights our way throughout the Easter Season, is lit for every funeral, shares its light to every newly baptized Christian, it is that about which the first song of Easter, the Exsultet, is sung; yes, the candle matters.

It starts out tall and majestic and gives itself away throughout the year, as do we. It casts out the darkness with its joyous light, as do we. It shines with the glory of hope in life's darkest hours, as do we.

And so we sing: *But now we know the praises of this pillar, which glowing fire ignites for God's honor, a fire into many flames divided, yet never dimmed by sharing of its light, for it is fed by melting wax, drawn out by mother bees to build a torch so precious.* (Exsultet)

Therefore, we offer it to God, as we do ourselves. It would not be Easter without the candle, because it would not be Easter without us.

The Bishop's Bulletin

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During the blessing of construction and the ground breaking for the new monastery for the Perpetual Adoration Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, Bishop Paul J. Swain (pictured on the right), joined (left to right with shovels) Tom and Mary Cink, co-chairs of the Bishop's Leadership Committee; Bernardo Sanchez, owner, Sanchez Painting and Madre Caridad Morales, Mother Superior, in the initial symbolic turn of the shovel. So far, \$5.3 million have been donated to begin the project. Donations are still needed to reach the \$970,000 to complete the second phase of the monastery. A donation form and prayer request form are available at www.perpetualadorationsisters.org. (Photo by Brian Cooper, Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota)

Centenary of the *Apparitions* of *Our Lady of Fatima* 1917-2017

The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima

will be in the following parishes:

- Sat., June 3:** Sacred Heart, Yankton, 8:00am - 12 Noon
St. Lambert, Sioux Falls, 3:30pm - 7:30pm
- Sun., June 4:** Immaculate Conception, Watertown, 8:30am - 1:30pm
- Mon., June 5:** St. Mary of Mercy, Alexandria (Carmelite Monastery), 8:00am - 12 Noon
Holy Family Parish, Mitchell, 3:30pm - 7:30pm
- Tues., June 6:** St. John the Baptist Parish, Wagner, 8:00am - 12 Noon

This sacred image was created in 1947 with Sister Lucia's instructions.

Join Us for A Special Holy Hour

with the recitation of the Most Holy Rosary and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament on the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady's first appearance at Fatima,

Sat., May 13: The Cathedral of St. Joseph beginning at 1:30pm

**The Rosary will be broadcast live on The Lamb Radio as well.*



ALL ARE INVITED

Sponsored by the Office of the Marian Apostolate
(msgmangan@sfcatholic.org; 605-521-0175)



A SPECIAL MOMENT

SIX TO BE ORDAINED PRIESTS FOR THE DIOCESE OF SIOUX FALLS

The six men to be ordained to the priesthood June 2 will form one of the largest ordination classes ever for the Diocese of Sioux Falls.

Archive records show that six were ordained in 1944, 1954, 1956 and 2001. In 1957, 1962 and 1976, seven were ordained. In some of these years, not all of the ordinations occurred at the same time.

Who are the six to be ordained for service in the Diocese of Sioux Falls this year? In their own words, please meet them.



REV. MR. BRIAN ECKRICH

“What do you want to do with your life?” At the heart of this question is the assumption that each one of us knows what will ultimately bring us happiness. This is what I believed. I arrived at South Dakota State University in the fall of 2006 with the intention of earning a doctorate in chemistry. I had a wonderful part-time job on campus; I studied hard and received good grades.

Yet, I was restless. Then one Sunday morning after Mass at Pius XII Newman Center, I was asked to join a FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) bible study. Slowly, I began to enter into a life of prayer. Through daily Mass, silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, and FOCUS, I personally encountered Jesus Christ; and my life was changed. I realized that true happiness is found in Him alone. In the words of St. Augustine, “Our hearts are restless until they rest in Christ.”

With this realization, I accepted the cross of the Christian life and began to follow Him, and I did not follow Him alone. At the Newman Center, I was blessed to have the company of so many men and women who were striving to live for Christ along with me. We challenged one another to holiness, we held each other accountable, we enjoyed authentic leisure, we built lasting friendships rooted in virtue and truth.

Rooted in the life of Christ, the question then became, “what do you want me to do Lord?” Through much prayer, the Lord called me to enter the St. Paul Seminary (in St. Paul, Minnesota), where



SDSU friends supporting Brian Eckrich at 2016 Diaconate Ordination

I began to encounter Christ in a new way. With the assistance of some excellent professors and friends at the seminary, my study of the intellectual treasury of the Catholic faith, manifested through the writings of numerous popes, fathers, doctors, and saints, brought me to greater love of Christ and His Church.

Jesus tells his Apostles, “Now this is eternal life: That they may know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.” (John 17:3) St. Augustine, commenting on these words of Christ states that “If the knowledge of God is eternal life, the more that we advance in this knowledge, the more do we advance in eternal life.” Thus, it has been my desire to know Christ and His Church more perfectly so that I may love Him more perfectly. The hope for my priesthood is that I may help the good people of this diocese to know and love Christ and His Church more perfectly so that each of us may enter into the bliss of eternal life.



REV. MR. TIMOTHY SMITH

Ten years ago I worked a stressful business job for a big banking corporation. My days were filled working with clients over the phone and I was tied to a computer all day long. Even though I was good at my position and I enjoyed helping clients resolve their problems, I began to feel the emptiness that comes from living life only for one's self. I had become so greedy and selfish in my competition with a co-worker, that I seriously hurt his feelings through my words and actions. I apologized after this incident but I was horrified at the person I had become. I realized that my daily actions were transforming me into a different person and that it was time for a serious change.

I prayed to God to help me become a different person, so that I would become a man who could make decisions to love, respect, and serve others. I needed the mercy of Jesus Christ. Shortly afterwards God gave me the opportunity to work at the St. Francis House, a homeless ministry in Sioux Falls that was founded and supported by the Church. The building is a former convent that was converted to a shelter to offer the corporal works of mercy. The St. Francis House offers homeless men and women a place to stay while they find a job and get enough money to make a fresh start. The house also provides emergency meals for those in need along with employment and health services. God gave me the chance to live my life for others and to

see the work he was doing in our local Church.

I went from volunteering at the shelter for a month to working overnights during my weekends. I loved the work we were doing and I met so many amazing people. I cooked meals for 60 guests each morning; made sack lunches for people on the street, and lead the community and families in prayer. I even started asking the people on the street who received sack lunches if they wanted to pray before their meal with me. I would usually sneak in the prayer a reminder about how much God loves them, no matter how far down the scale they have gone – His Mercy Endures Forever! (Psalm 136) I had awareness that the late Bishop Paul Dudley who used to work at the St. Francis House was accompanying me on my journey.

After dedicating my time to the spiritual and corporal works of mercy for over a year I began to realize that Jesus was calling me to quench spiritual hunger and thirst by leading people toward eternal life in heaven. One afternoon while stacking canned goods in the food pantry with my friend Clare, I admitted for the first time that God was calling me to the priesthood. I discovered my vocation while feeding the hungry and following Jesus teaching; Blessed are the Merciful (Matt 5:7)



**REV. MR.
TYLER
MATTSON**

I was a freshman at the University of South Dakota when I realized that I would not be at peace if I did not follow God's call to discern the priesthood in seminary. I first felt the call in my heart when I was at O'Gorman High School, "Be a priest". Again, at USD that same pull on my heart came to me, "Be a priest." I entered St. John Vianney Seminary as a sophomore in college. It tested me in amazing ways and allowed me to fall more deeply in love with God.

While I was studying in Rome for a semester as a senior in college, I had an experience in prayer in which I knew I would not be truly happy unless I belonged completely to Jesus. For

me, this was an event that confirmed my call to the celibate life. Celibacy has brought so much freedom to my heart, freedom to love, freedom to live a life of profound joy.

I am so looking forward to ordination this June. The deepest desire in my heart is to be a priest; this is a desire that has made itself felt more and more strongly in my heart over my years of seminary formation. All people are called to be saints, and to be a saint, to be holy, means to be perfect in love. I know that God is calling me to be holy and perfect in love precisely through the priesthood. The beautiful thing is that a priest is ordained to help others be saints. So, I get to be a saint by helping others become saints! I cannot think of a better life.

I also cannot think of a better place to serve as a priest than the Diocese of Sioux Falls. The people of this diocese have already been so abundantly generous with their support and prayers during my time in seminary that I could not possibly repay them. I have had formative summers in the diocese where I have been able to meet a small fraction of the faithful. My encounters with the people of the Diocese of Sioux Falls have encouraged me to be a good priest for such good people.

God is never outdone in generosity. That is one of the primary lessons I will take into my priesthood from my time in seminary. Just when I think that the Father could not possibly have anything else to give me, He gives me even more. I hope I can share some of the "even more" of the Father's love as a priest for the Diocese of Sioux Falls.



Tyler Mattson serving Mass with Pope Benedict XVI



REV. MR. THOMAS HARTMAN

Looking back over these past 5 years of formation I remember coming here to Holy Apostles Seminary in Cromwell, CT. The east coast was high traffic, lots of people, enclosed in trees, and the seminary had an 8'x10' cell awaiting me. Coming from the wide open spaces of SD, the slower pace, my own home, and people who loved me, I think the first 6 weeks felt like a prison.

Six weeks into my formation, coinciding with my consecration to Our Lady, I was at a local parish prayer group where I had an ordinary experience that made an extraordinary difference. In the course of the time for prayer, it was as if the Lord revealed to me in my heart, "What I have given you in this tiny spot (Holy Apostles Campus) on this great big earth contains more than what the rest of the world has to offer." In that moment, I knew God had given me an incredible opportunity to enter into seminary formation and what we receive here is a privilege.

It's an opportunity to really grow in relationship with the Lord and to be configured more intimately to Christ the Priest. Each day, we are able to enter into Holy Mass, have time of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, have the sacrament of reconciliation readily available to us, priests guiding us in our spiritual life, and to enter into studies in order to come to see the richness and beauty of our Catholic faith. As I sat there reflecting on these and so many other things God gives us in this time of formation, suddenly the weight of those other things seemed so light and I went back to the seminary that evening experiencing formation with a greater joy.

This time of formation is so privileged and blessed and could not be done without the generous support of so many people. Paul's letter to the Hebrews talks about 'so great a cloud of witnesses' and when I think of this although the invisible realities of the saints and angels come to mind, it also makes me think of all the people across our diocese whom I don't see but the graces of their prayers/support overshadow us.

Part of the joy comes knowing the family I am part of in the Catholic Church but in particular the great Diocese of Sioux Falls. This journey would be missing a special joy without you. Although I have come to love my time here in Connecticut and have met many special people, my heart belongs to Diocese of Sioux Falls and I can't wait to be back in the wide open spaces and with the people who love me and whom I love.

Please pray that as I approach ordination, God will mold me into a simple holy priest. God bless our diocese and thanks for your support.



Hartman Family at 2016 Diaconate Ordination



REV. MR. JOSEPH SCHOLTEN

It was a November evening in my senior year at O'Gorman when I decided to apply for seminary. Standing on a sidewalk in downtown Sioux Falls, I looked up and saw the spires of the Cathedral of Saint Joseph lit up against the evening sky. Hope seemed to well up within me.

I was blessed to be raised by Catholic parents, and from the beginning my family supported my vocation, though it came as a bit of a surprise. I went through a slow conversion in high school. Jesus had been reaching out to me through Discipleship camp and through our new parish priest, Fr. Justin Wachs. The rosary had just recently replaced rap music as I made my rounds with the watering hose while working at St. Michael Cemetery.

Fr. Jim Mason guided me through the application process, and I was sent to St. John Vianney College Seminary in St. Paul. The time I spent there, along with the past four years I've spent at the



Joseph Scholten's diaconate ordination at St. Peter's Basilica, Rome

Pontifical North American College, have proven more formative than I could have imagined. The priests on faculty at both seminaries have shown me spiritual fatherhood. My classmates have become brothers and the closest friends I have ever known. And our studies in philosophy and theology have equipped me to speak to our weary world the life-giving truth of Christ.

My summers back in our diocese, spent under some of our veteran pastors, have also proven irreplaceable. I'll never forget Fr. Terry Anderson's patience in training altar servers, or Fr. John Helmueller's charity in reaching out to brother priests. Likewise, I learned much from Fr. Joe Forcelle as he prepared couples for marriage. How could I not want to share in Fr. Wach's joy as he brought new children of God to life in baptism? Most of all, how could I not humbly admire the love that moved Fr. Jim Friedrich to pass the first and last hours of every day in front of the tabernacle, and every hour in between in service to his people? We are blessed with terrific priests in our diocese, and I am humbled and excited to be joining their ranks.

One summer that will reside forever in my memory was the summer of 2015, when with several of my classmates I had the privilege of making a thirty-day silent retreat at Broom Tree Retreat Center. There, in the depths of silence and prayer, I met the same Lord who had first called me to serve as His priest, filling me with joy as I stood gazing up at the spires of our cathedral. Now, some years later, I am eager to return to that same cathedral and to respond "Present!" when my name is called on ordination day.



This year's ordination class (with the exception of Deacon Hartman) in front of the Church of Saints Marcellinus and Peter in Rome. The ordination to the Priesthood will be on June 2, the Feast Day of Saints Marcellinus and Peter who were two 4th century Christian martyrs in the city of Rome.



REV. MR. ANDREW THURINGER

I was in my freshman year of college and was trying as hard as I could not to hear my call to the priesthood. I was studying theater; in fact I was in a play and loved everything about it. The previous summer I had traveled the state teaching and evangelizing with the Totus Tuus youth program. That summer was a truly graced time in my life. I met so many beautiful families, learned from so many of my fellow teachers who were on fire for the faith, and most of all, I fell in love with Jesus. It was during this summer that I first heard God call somewhere deep in my heart, “Andy, come be my priest.”

Then the summer ended. I went off to college to study acting. It turned out I wasn’t half bad. I was cast in a couple of plays, and before I knew it, I was also in love with acting. It was deeply satisfying to get on stage and tell someone’s story. But somewhere deep in my heart I could still hear God’s call, and it was getting harder to ignore.

The last character I played in school was the father of a loving but troubled family. He was the wise, Leave it to Beaver sort of father that you don’t see on TV anymore. Backstage one night, the man who played my son confided in me. He said he didn’t know his father, but that he loved this show because he got to experience a good father through me. I was speechless. I had no right to be this man’s father. I was just some kid doing my best, and I was actually younger than him. That’s when it hit me: That’s the priesthood!

I have no right to be a priest. It is a complete and total gift from God, and it leaves me speechless. Yet God has called me, has cast me in this role if you will, to stand in the place of Jesus and make the Father’s great love for his people known.

After that fateful conversation backstage, I went back to my quiet dorm room and with newly opened ears I listened to God’s call. That call led me away from acting. It also led me to a time of study and prayer in the seminary. It was often rewarding and usually difficult, but it was always worth it. Now I look forward with a hopeful heart to the priesthood, to standing at the altar and telling the greatest story ever told, the story of God’s love for his Church.



Because of the size of the class, the ordination will be a ticketed event, but it will be streamed live at 11:00 am through YouTube on the diocesan webpage

www.sfcatholic.org

Most commencement exercises this spring will occur during the Easter season which ends on Pentecost Sunday, June 7. The intersection of these two major events provides an opportunity for us to assess how well we have prepared graduates to be successful in the next stage of their lives. It is hoped that the schools have provided the knowledge and skill set to succeed in a post high school academic setting, a career or other endeavor.

The celebration of Easter acknowledges the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus. In the gospel writings, Jesus provides the reason for God becoming man (the Son) and direction for achieving the ultimate goal of being united with God the Father. If we accept this as the core of our faith, have we prioritized bringing graduates to understand that Jesus loves them, has invited them to follow Him and encouraged them to respond to the invitation?

Commencements are usually emotionally charged ceremonies for the graduates, parents, educators and others who have invested in the advancement of the graduates. It is a time filled with much hope and some apprehension.

Quite appropriately, there is an acknowledgment of the sacrifices made by and the role of parents, peers and teachers in getting the graduates to this point in their lives. Hopefully, families and the schools have provided an environment that fostered positive relationships and offered opportunities to grow physically, emotionally and intellectually. Surveys, testing and accrediting associations helped determine the degree to which goals were achieved and adjustments were made to effectively meet

students' needs. We owe a debt of gratitude to those teachers who have provided developmentally appropriate best practices in creating and maintaining effective schools. It was not easy. It took commitment.

But we are Easter people! We know that as great (and necessary) as it is to foster effective physical, emotional and intellectual growth, there is more. The spiritual formation of our youth often receives less emphasis. In many cases the omission of spiritual growth as a priority is not intentional.

A large number of parents would like for their children to have a Christian value system but find it increasingly more challenging in today's world to witness personally or to find spiritual role models in their children's daily lives. Parents and teachers should not despair as Jesus Himself had a difficult time convincing the apostles and others to understand "why" and "how" they should follow Him.

Unfortunately, we live in a world that increasingly ignores the gospel message, bends it to accommodate their will or is subtly or blatantly anti-Christian.

Many parents, Catholic school teachers and volunteer religious education teachers have placed a priority on spiritual growth. They have accepted Jesus' invitation to follow Him and are passing it on. Even though parents are the primary educators of their children, it is up to the rest of us to support them in this most important endeavor.

By understanding the challenges parents face and by bringing Christ to them in our words and actions we witness to and sustain them in their efforts. Among the ministries in our parishes there often exists a need for those who will commit to teaching the "Good News" to youth of various ages. In addition to living the life to which Christ called us, participating in the sacraments,



Tom Lorang, Ed.D.

and serving others; teaching our youth is an extremely important ministry.

Congratulations graduates, parents and teachers on your great achievement! A quality education is a gift to use wisely. Even greater are the gift of the teachings of Jesus and the gift of the Holy Spirit which we celebrate on Pentecost Sunday. Graduates have been made aware that they are loved by Jesus and that they have been given an invitation to follow Him. The gospels tell them "why" and "how". Jesus began the conversation. Jesus extended an invitation and awaits a response.

Tom Lorang, Ed.D. is a long time South Dakota educator and administrator now serving as a consultant in organizational leadership and planning.

Fatima centenary to be celebrated with Pope Francis in attendance

Pope Francis will canonize Blessed Francisco Marto and Blessed Jacinta Marto while in Fatima for the centenary of the Apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to the three children. More coverage in the June edition of The Bishop's Bulletin. This prayer was written for the occasion.

Jubilee Prayer of Consecration

Hail, Mother of the Lord,
Virgin Mary, Queen of the Rosary of Fatima!
Blessed among all women,
you are the image of the Church dressed in the Paschal Light,
you are the honour of our people, you are the triumph over the mark of evil.

Prophecy of the merciful Love of the Father,
Teacher of the Annunciation of the Good News of the Son,
Sign of the burning Fire of the Holy Spirit,
teach us, in this valley of joys and sorrows,
the eternal truths that the Father reveals to the little ones.

Show us the strength of your mantle of protection.
In Your Immaculate Heart, be the refuge of sinners
and the way that leads to God.

In unity with my brethren,
In Faith, Hope and Love, I surrender myself to you.
In unity with my brethren, through you, I consecrate myself to God,
O Virgin of the Rosary of Fatima.

And thus surrounded by the Light that comes from your hands,
I will give Glory to the Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

Local
CHURCH



Upcoming Events at The Abbey:

Sat., May 20th: Sara Thomsen Singing Workshop and Concert
Sat., May 27th: 3rd Annual Joyful Noise Concert and Getaway
June 5-9: Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls - Summer Priest Retreat
June 9-11: Communion of Hearts Rosary Retreat
Fri., June 23rd - 7:30 p.m.: National Catholic Youth Choir Concert



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Friday 7:00 PM through 4:00 PM on Saturday
Information—Jane Barz (605) 940-4101
OR—www.ajoyfulshout.com

"And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year,
and proclaim liberty throughout the land to
all its inhabitants." (Lev. 25:10)

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and 'Loving Servants Prayer Group.'



Local CHURCH

Ordination to the Diaconate set for early June at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph

The ordination to the Diaconate for the Diocese of Sioux Falls is scheduled for Thursday, June 1 at 11 a.m. in the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls. Patrick Grode is to be ordained.

Grode was born on July 14, 1981 in Sioux Falls to William and Jean Grode.

Patrick has two younger sisters, Kathleen and Mary.

Patrick's father's employment required moves and the family moved to Ardmore, OK and then Rohnert Park, CA for a few years before moving to Rapid City.

Patrick graduated from St. Thomas More High School in Rapid City and then attended



Patrick Grode

college at South Dakota State University in Brookings and Ave Maria School of Law in Ann Arbor, MI.

Patrick passed the South Dakota bar exam in 2007. He practiced law in Pierre and worked in the Deputy State's Attorney's office

in Rapid City.

Patrick's maternal grandparents grew up on farms in Codington County, and his paternal grandfather grew up on a farm in Day County. Patrick's parents still live in the Rapid City area.

Patrick is related to five Sioux Falls diocesan priests on his mother's side and one on his father's side.

In August, 2014 Patrick was sponsored by the Diocese of Sioux Falls to begin classes in theology at the Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, MA.

The ordination is open to the people of the diocese.

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Mina couple working with Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota



The Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota held its semi-annual board meeting in Aberdeen April 26 and 27. One of the stories highlighted at this year's board meeting was of Dave and Rita Pettigrew of Mina. They are members of Sacred Heart Parish, Aberdeen. The Pettigrews are currently working on their estate plan and how they would like to "Direct their Donation" using the Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota. (Photo by Brian Cooper, Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota)

Local CHURCH

Benedictines welcome Oblates to Sacred Heart Monastery



An Oblation ceremony recently took place in The Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel, Yankton. A final Oblation was made by Mary Albrecht and several other Oblates renewed their profession as Oblates. Pictured are (left to right): Sister Penny Bingham, prioress, Mary Albrecht, oblate, and Sister Pat Heirigs. (Photo courtesy, Sacred Heart Monastery, Yankton)

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May 9: Gossip: Destroyer of Mercy
 - with Fr. Andrew Dickinson
June 20: How to Hear God's Voice in the Midst of Pain and Difficulties
 - with Fr. Steven Jones
August 22: Peace and Freedom: Goals of the Interior Life
 - with Fr. Kristopher Cowles

▷ **SPECIAL RETREATS**
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October 13-15: Inner Healing Retreat

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Local CHURCH

Discipleship day brings crowd to Sioux Falls to pray and learn



Deacon Ralph Poyo interacts with participants at one of the break-out groups at this year's diocesan Discipleship Day. More than 300 people attended the two day event. The theme for the event this year was "The Heart of the Gospel." In addition to Deacon Ralph Poyo, youth ministry expert Bob Rice and Bishop Paul J. Swain addressed the gathering. (Photo by Tim Stanek, Diocese of Sioux Falls)

Bishop's Charity Fishing tournaments set soon



The annual "Bishop's Charity Fishing Tournament" to benefit seminarian education is getting closer. The tournament will mark its 21st year this spring and is scheduled for Monday, June 5 on Big Stone Lake and Monday, June 12 at on Lake Oahe near Gettysburg. Proceeds from the tournaments go toward the formation and education of diocesan seminarians. For more information or to register, contact the Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota at 605-988-3765 or toll free at 1-888-246-3386 or at www.ccfesd.org. (Photo courtesy, Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota)

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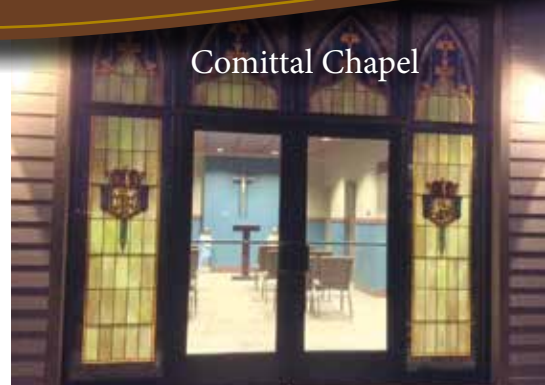
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Parish students from Roscoe help package meals for Haiti



The students of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Roscoe, recently participated in packaging meals for Kids Against Hunger in Aberdeen. The students packaged more than 7,500 meals in less than two hours. The meals are being sent on to the people of Haiti. (Photo courtesy, Wendy Hoerner, St. Thomas Parish, Roscoe)

Local CHURCH

Chrism Mass celebrated in diocese in advance of Easter



Bishop Paul J. Swain consecrated the Sacred Chrism and blessed the Oil of the Sick and Oil of the Catechumens at the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls. These oils are used in sacraments in parishes across the diocese. Priests of the diocese also renewed their commitment as part of the Chrism Mass liturgy. (Photo by Gene Young)

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Local CHURCH

Parish students from Webster present Living Stations of the Cross



The confirmation class students and youth group members of Christ the King Parish, Webster, presented the Living Stations of the Cross during Lent including reenacting the walk of our Lord Jesus Christ to his death. The young people who took part called it a very powerful experience leading up to the celebration of Easter. (Photo courtesy, Jackie Snaza, director of Religious Education, Christ the King Parish, Webster)

Aberdeen students also perform Living Stations leading up to Easter



As part of their Easter celebrations, the Roncalli High School seniors also reenacted the Living Stations under the direction of religion teacher Cherie Shishnia. (Photo courtesy, Roncalli Journalism Department, Aberdeen)

VISIT

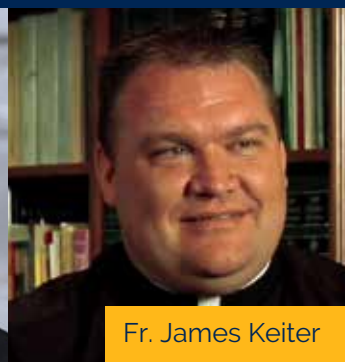
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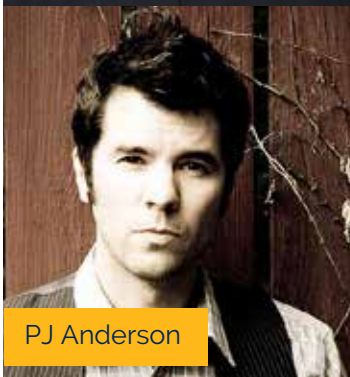
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Newman Club students from Madison serve those at The Banquet West



Several students from the St. Michael Newman Club at Dakota State University, Madison, recently assisted in serving a meal at the Banquet West, Sioux Falls. Pictured are (back row, left to right): Maggie Johnson, Courtney O'Connell and Kimberly Halverson, club executive director; (front row, left to right): Ashley Stenger and Mandy Entringer. (Photo courtesy, Kimberly Halverson, Newman Club, Dakota State University, Madison)

Local CHURCH

STUDENTS FROM TABOR PARISH HELP FEED THOSE IN NEED



The Religious Education students at St. Wenceslaus Parish, Tabor, recently organized and coordinated a food drive for their area. The students included young people from grades pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. The food drive was held to help the Bon Homme County Food Pantry re-stock its shelves. The students were able to deliver 290 pounds of donated food and miscellaneous items to the food pantry in Tyndall. (Photo courtesy, Lisa Hauck, director of Religious Education, St. Wenceslaus Parish, Tabor)

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Committed in CHRIST



BRANDON – Bob and Sally Wright will celebrate their 50th anniversary on May 6. They have 3 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of Risen Savior Parish.



CLEAR LAKE – Elmer and Frances Fritz will celebrate their 60th anniversary on May 4. They have 4 children, 13 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



HARTFORD – Mike and Rose Jesse will celebrate their 40th anniversary on May 28. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of St. George Parish.



MADISON – Darrel and Patricia Simon will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 3. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish.



MELLETTTE – Bill and Denise Clemens will celebrate their 25th anniversary on May 16. They have 5 children, 1 grandchild and are members of All Saints Parish.



MITCHELL – Art and Helen Pollreis will celebrate their 70th anniversary on May 7. They have 8 children (1 deceased), 16 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



PIERRE – Doug and Joan Schueller celebrated their 25th anniversary on Sept. 21. They have 4 children and are members of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish.



ROSHOLT – Dennis and Ardith Kraus will celebrate their 60th anniversary on May 22. They have 4 children, 7 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and are members of St. John the Baptist Parish.



SALEM – Wilbur and Marilyn Luehn will celebrate their 60th anniversary on May 16. They have 4 children, 9 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SALEM – Myron and Margaret Eich will celebrate their 60th anniversary on May 28. They have 4 children, 10 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SCOTLAND – Damon and Linda Alvey will celebrate their 25th anniversary on May 23. They have 2 children and are members of St. George Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Deacon Jerome and Dorothy Wathen will celebrate their 60th anniversary on May 25. They are members of St. Lambert Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Maynard and Monica Hennings will celebrate their 60th anniversary on June 1. They have 5 children, 14 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and are members of Cathedral of Saint Joseph Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Mark and Sharon Mulder will celebrate their 40th anniversary on May 20. They have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Charles and Katharine Fogelman will celebrate their 65th anniversary on May 26. They have 5 children, 13 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and are members of Christ the King Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Dale and Barb Bauer will celebrate their 50th anniversary on May 20. They have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



STICKNEY – Robert and Kathy Schroeder will celebrate their 50th anniversary on May 12. They have 4 children, 11 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



VERMILLION – Al and Peggy Rosenbaum will celebrate their 60th anniversary on May 18. They have 3 children, 7 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Agnes Parish.



VERMILLION – Deacon Timothy and Kathleen Tracy will celebrate their 40th anniversary on May 21. They have 3 children, 9 grandchildren and are members of St. Agnes Parish.



WHITE LAKE – Scott and Chantelle Kirsch will celebrate their 25th anniversary on May 23. They have 9 children (1 deceased) and are members of St. Peter Parish.

Continued on next page

Sister Jeanette Klimisch

Sister Jeanette Klimisch died on March 23. She was 96.

A funeral Mass was held March 27 in the Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel. Burial followed in the monastery cemetery.

Clara Caroline Klimisch was born on August 22, 1920, a twin and youngest of eight children of Anton and Martha (Block) Klimisch, on the family farm in Sigel near Yankton.

She earned a BA degree from St. Mary-of-the-Woods in Indiana and her Master's Degree at the Catholic University, Washington, D.C.

She and her twin Jane entered Sacred Heart Monastery on August 28, 1938. She was invested as a novice a year later and received the name Jeanette. Sister Jeanette made her first profession on June 24, 1940 and her final profession on June 24, 1943.

She was the Academic Dean of



Sister Jeanette Klimisch, OSB

Mount Marty from 1965-69. She served on the South Dakota Health and Education Facilities Board from 1977-1990, and on the Monastery Council and other hospital Boards of Trustees as well. She was Sub-prioress at the monastery from 1981-1989, and went back to teaching at Mount Marty College until 1992 when she received the title Professor Emeritus.

Sister Jeanette is survived by her Benedictine community and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her twin Sister Jane, three sisters and three brothers.

Sister Ann Foley

Sister Ann Foley, 88, a Sister of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, died April 7 at Presentation Convent, Aberdeen.

The Mass of Christian Burial was held April 11 in Blessed Sacrament Chapel at Presentation Convent. Burial followed at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Aberdeen.

Ann Elizabeth Foley was born March 11, 1929 in Madison to Eva (Terwilliger) and John Foley. She graduated from Eastern High School in Madison, SD in 1947 and Presentation School of Nursing, St. Joseph Hospital, Mitchell, SD in 1950.

Ann entered Presentation Convent on September 8, 1950 and made her first profession of vows August 10, 1953. During these years she also attended Presentation College in Aberdeen.

Sister Ann's ministry as a Registered Nurse spanned from 1953 to 2007 in areas of South Dakota, Minnesota and Montana. She ministered in

Committed in CHRIST



Sister Ann Foley, PBVM
various departments in hospitals, including surgical, medical and pediatrics.

Sister Ann is survived by her community family of Presentation Sisters; her sister Carol Neises, Littleton, CO; her brother Chuck Foley, Delta CO, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Eva and John Foley; two brothers, Maurice Foley and Joseph Foley and sister, Loretta Kreul.



YANKTON – Denis and Dolores Feilmeier will celebrate their 65th anniversary on May 19. They have 5 children, 13 grandchildren (1 deceased), 23 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Benedict Parish.

Anniversary submissions

Send a color photo,
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Collection translates into missionary work for U.S. regions

Washington, D.C. (CNS) - American Catholics had an opportunity to become modern-day missionaries recently by simply dropping money in a collection plate. That was the weekend the Catholic Home Missions Appeal was conducted as a second collection in many parishes throughout the U.S. The money raised from it will help bring the religion to people throughout the country. Contributing to that collection really is a way for Catholics to do missionary work without ever leaving their home or parish, said Richard Coll, director of Catholic Home Missions in the U.S. bishops' Office of National Collections. The annual Catholic Home Missions Appeal helps support more than 40 percent of the dioceses and eparchies in the United States and its territories in the Caribbean and Pacific. These dioceses tend to be rural with enormous territories within their borders. Without the subsidies that come from the annual appeal established by the U.S. Catholic bishops in 1998, it would be difficult or impossible to support many of the religious programs in these regions or even some basic pastoral functions. It's why they are called mission dioceses, because they depend on missionary efforts to help bring Catholicism to these populations in a meaningful way. The theme of the appeal this year is "Strengthening the Church at Home."

Newly named Iowa bishop says he's 'a little anxious but a lot excited'

Davenport, IA. (CNS) - Msgr. Thomas R. Zinkula wondered whether a phone message from the apostolic nuncio might be a prank. The rector of St. Pius X Seminary in Dubuque was on retreat with seminarians and knows that they can be pranksters. It wasn't a prank, he learned after returning the call. The nuncio asked Msgr. Zinkula if he would serve as ninth bishop of the Diocese of Davenport. "Could I think about it, pray about it?" he asked the nuncio. "Are you leaning toward saying yes?" the nuncio asked hopefully. Bishop-designate Zinkula repeated that story for chancery staff, diocesan priests and the news media.

Pope pays tribute to modern martyrs, calls for witnesses of God's love

Rome (CNS) - The Christian church today needs believers who witness each day to the power of God's love, but it also needs the heroic witness of those who stand up to hatred even when it means giving up their lives, Pope Francis said. At Rome's Basilica of St. Bartholomew, a shrine to modern martyrs, Pope Francis presided over an evening prayer service, honoring Christians killed under Nazism, communism, dictatorships and terrorism. "These teach us that with the force of love and with meekness one can fight arrogance, violence and war, and that with patience peace is possible," the pope said in his homily in the small basilica on Rome's Tiber Island. Departing from his prepared text, Pope Francis said he wanted to add to the martyrs remembered at St. Bartholomew by including "a woman -- I don't know her name -- but she watches from heaven." The pope said he'd met the woman's husband, a Muslim, in Lesbos, Greece, when he visited a refugee camp there in 2016. The man told the pope that one day, terrorists came to their home. They saw his wife's crucifix and ordered her to throw it on the ground. She refused and they slit her throat.

Pope in Egypt: Strengthening weary Christians, reaching out to all

Vatican City (CNS) - Pope Francis' visit to Egypt, a land increasingly marked by terrorist-led bloodshed, stands as part of his mission to inspire and encourage today's actors in theaters of violence to change the script and set a new stage. Just as the pope did when he raised the curtain of the Year of Mercy in war-torn Central African Republic, he goes to strengthen and "confirm his brothers of the Coptic Catholic Church and other churches present in Egypt," said Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches. He will be able to show, in person, his support and solidarity for the beleaguered Christian minorities who continue to be targeted by terrorist fanatics and increasingly feel vulnerable and unsafe in their own land, said Maryknoll Father Douglas May, who worked in Egypt for two decades. Even though Christianity there traces its roots to the times of the apostles, being a Christian in Egypt today "is like being black in the United States before civil rights or being a Jew in Germany before Hitler. You're tolerated. But people don't want to be tolerated, they want to be accepted as citizens with equal rights and equal possibilities," said the 67-year-old priest, who grew up near Buffalo, New York. To make things even more difficult, there is "still a very low level of ecumenical spirit" among many priests and bishops of the different Christian communities, even though laypeople already have a sense "that everybody is one: Protestants, Catholic and Orthodox."

Persecuted Christians often choose strategy of survival, study says

Washington, D.C. (CNS) - A new study categorizes what kinds of responses emerge when Christians around the world are persecuted, noting that, most often, Christians choose a strategy of survival. However, the findings also show Christians might choose a strategy of association -- seeking to secure their religious freedom by developing ties with other Christian communities, non-Christian religions, and secular figures -- and, on occasion, they use strategies of confrontation. The report, "In Response to Persecution, Findings of the Under Caesar's Sword Project on Global Christian Communities," also offers recommendations for businesses, nongovernmental organizations, governments and scholars to help keep situations from getting worse.

Catholic educators get new ideas at annual convention

St. Louis (CNS) - More than 8,000 Catholic educators attended the National Catholic Educational Association Convention in St. Louis this year and many of them picked up ideas during the gathering to use in their own schools. Sister Judith Abique, a Sister of St. Paul of Chartres, plans to integrate Theology of the Body concepts in religion classes at St. Joseph School in Waipahu, Hawaii, where she is vice principal and religion coordinator. She attended a workshop that she said gave "really good insights" on St. John Paul II's encyclical on an integrated vision of the human person. Shelly Jensen, a learning consultant at Immaculate Conception School in Union, said she appreciated the many sessions for special education teachers and said she was pleased to see so many people with the "same mission, goals and identity for Catholic education." Cecil Bongato, a teacher at Mercy Heights Nursery and Kindergarten in Guam, said the convention provided her with new resources and ways to improve teaching.

Ministry Tech days scheduled in May

May 4, 11 and 16 - Ministry Tech Days is a free workshop day for anyone interested in enhancing the ministry of Catholic churches, organizations and schools through technology; the workshop is for beginners to full fledged techies; plenty of great tips, tricks and take aways and many topics to choose from; Thursday, May 4 at Catholic Pastoral Center, Sioux Falls; Thursday, May 11 at St. Margaret Parish, Kimball and Tuesday, May 16 at Abbey of the Hills, Marvin; the workshop day will address many questions and topics; for questions or more info contact Dawn Wolf, dwolf@sfcatholic.org or 605-988-3707

Cathedral Arts Series hosting Founder's concert

Friday, May 5 - The Founders' Concert each May commemorates the construction of the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, as well as the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker, patron of the Cathedral. The event will be at 7 p.m. Admission is free. The Founder's Concert will be the Cathedral choir's concert in preparation for its upcoming tour to Austria, Germany and the Czech Republic. The program will include favorites from the liturgical year, and early American gospel music.

Special Holy Hour planned at Cathedral Saturday, May 13

- The Office of the Marian Apostolate will host a special Holy Hour with the recitation of the rosary and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament on the 100th anniversary of Our Lady's first appearance at Fatima, on Saturday in the Cathedral of St. Joseph beginning at 1:30 p.m. All are invited.

Recitation of the rosary planned

Saturday, May 13 - The Office of the Marian Apostolate will host the recitation of the rosary on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, Saturday, May 13 at 5 p.m. in the Mother's Garden near the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Sioux Falls. All are invited.

Memorial Day Mass set for Sioux Falls

Monday, May 29 - St. Michael Cemetery, Sioux Falls, will host its annual Memorial Day Mass at the cemetery at 9 a.m. All are welcome to attend. The rosary will be prayed at 8:30 a.m.

Recitation of the rosary planned

Wednesday, May 31 - The Office of the Marian Apostolate will host the recitation of the rosary on the Feast of the Visitation, Wednesday, May 31 at 6 p.m. in the Mother's Garden near the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Sioux Falls. All are invited.

Marian Apostolate hosting the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue in diocese

Saturday, June 3 and other dates, locations - The Office of the Marian Apostolate will host the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima in the following parishes. On Saturday, June 3 at Sa-

cred Heart Parish, Yankton, from 8 a.m.-noon; Saturday, June 3 at St. Lambert Parish, Sioux Falls, from 3:30-7:30 p.m.; Sunday, June 4 at Immaculate Conception Parish, Watertown, from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Monday, June 5 at St. Mary of Mercy Parish (Chapel of the Monastery of Our Mother of Mercy and St. Joseph), Alexandria, from 8 a.m.-noon; on Monday, June 5 at Holy Family Parish, Mitchell, from 3:30-7:30 p.m.; on Tuesday, June 6 at St. John the Baptist Parish, Wagner, from 8 a.m.-noon. Please come to pray and venerate this sacred image. All are invited.

S.F. parish planning parish centennial Throughout the months ahead culminating Oct. 1

- St. Therese Parish, Sioux Falls is planning its centennial celebration; the second parish in Sioux Falls was established in 1917 and is celebrating 100 years with centennial events throughout the year culminating with a feast on Sunday, Oct. 1, the Feast Day of St. Therese. Come join the parish for the celebrations; all past and present parishioners and clergy are invited. For a listing of events call 605-338-2433 or go to www.st-therese.ws.

Sacred Heart Monastery

• May 7/Eucharistic Adoration is offered on the first Sunday of the month from 2-4 p.m. in the upper chapel of Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel, Yankton.

• May 26-28/Discernment Retreat "Listening with the Ear of Your Heart": The Benedictine Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery in Yankton are offering a discernment retreat

• May 26-28. If you are interested in registering for this retreat, please contact Sister Clarice Korgor no later than May 22. Email: shmyankton.vocationdirector@gmail.com or call 605-668-6092.

• Spiritual direction and personal retreats are offered at the Benedictine Peace Center year round by arrangement. Contact us at benedictinepeacectr@mtmc.edu or 605-668-6292, or visit us at www.yanktonbenedictines.org/Center.

• Contemplative Prayer/The Benedictine Peace Center, Yankton, hosts a morning of contemplative prayer on the third Saturday of every month. For more information or to register for the April and May sessions, contact Sister Doris Oberembt at doberembt@mtmc.edu or call 605-668-6292.

• Silent Retreats/Contact us to schedule your retreat. Let the monastic environment and outdoor beauty nurture your prayerful renewal time at the Benedictine Peace Center. You may choose a private retreat or request the guidance of a spiritual director. BenedictinePeaceCtr@mtmc.edu or 605-668-6292.

Catholic Family Services

• May 2 and June 6/Living with Chronic Illness group, a free educational support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, for those living with chronic illness and their care givers. St. Lambert Parish, 1000 S. Bahnson Ave., Sioux Falls. For details please call Margi at Catholic Family Services, 605-988-3775.

• May 12-15/Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is being offered; strictly confidential; a safe, loving, non-judgmental environment; the retreat is open to men, women, mothers, fathers, grandparents who have been affected by abortion; the retreat is non-denominational; for registration materials and more information, call Margi at 605-988-3775 or 1-800-700-7867 or email mculhane@sfcatholic.org; deadline for registration will be May 5.

• May 24/Catholic Family Services is offering an evening program for grieving the loss of a loved one on Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Church Sisseton. Directed by Dr. Marcie Moran, this retreat is for adults who have lost a loved one and are trying to understand and reconcile their grief. This program is non-denominational and is offered free of charge. To register, call the parish office at 605-698-7414 or Catholic Family Services at 800-700-7867.

• June 6-July 18/Grieving the Loss from Homicide is a six week program held every Tuesday evening from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Presented by Dr. Marcie Moran, this is a program for adults who have lost a loved one from the tragic and senseless crime of a murder. This loss has a unique intensity that requires special and educational assistance toward adjustment. Located at Catholic Family Services 523 N. Duluth Ave Sioux Falls. To register or questions please call 605-988-3775 or e-mail at cfs@sfcatholic.org.

Diocesan Vocations office

• July 30-Aug. 5/JP II Rocky Mountain Vocation Expedition; Vocations Director, Father Shaun Haggerty, will lead the expedition, along with Father Jordan Samson, and several seminarians and a few dads. We will be tent camping and doing day excursions as well as staying at St. John Vianney Seminary in Denver, CO; go to www.sfvocations.com to sign-up.



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8:00 am Tournament Begins
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3:30 pm Mass Celebrated by Bishop Paul Swain
4:15 pm Social Time
5:00 pm Outdoor Prime Rib Dinner

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