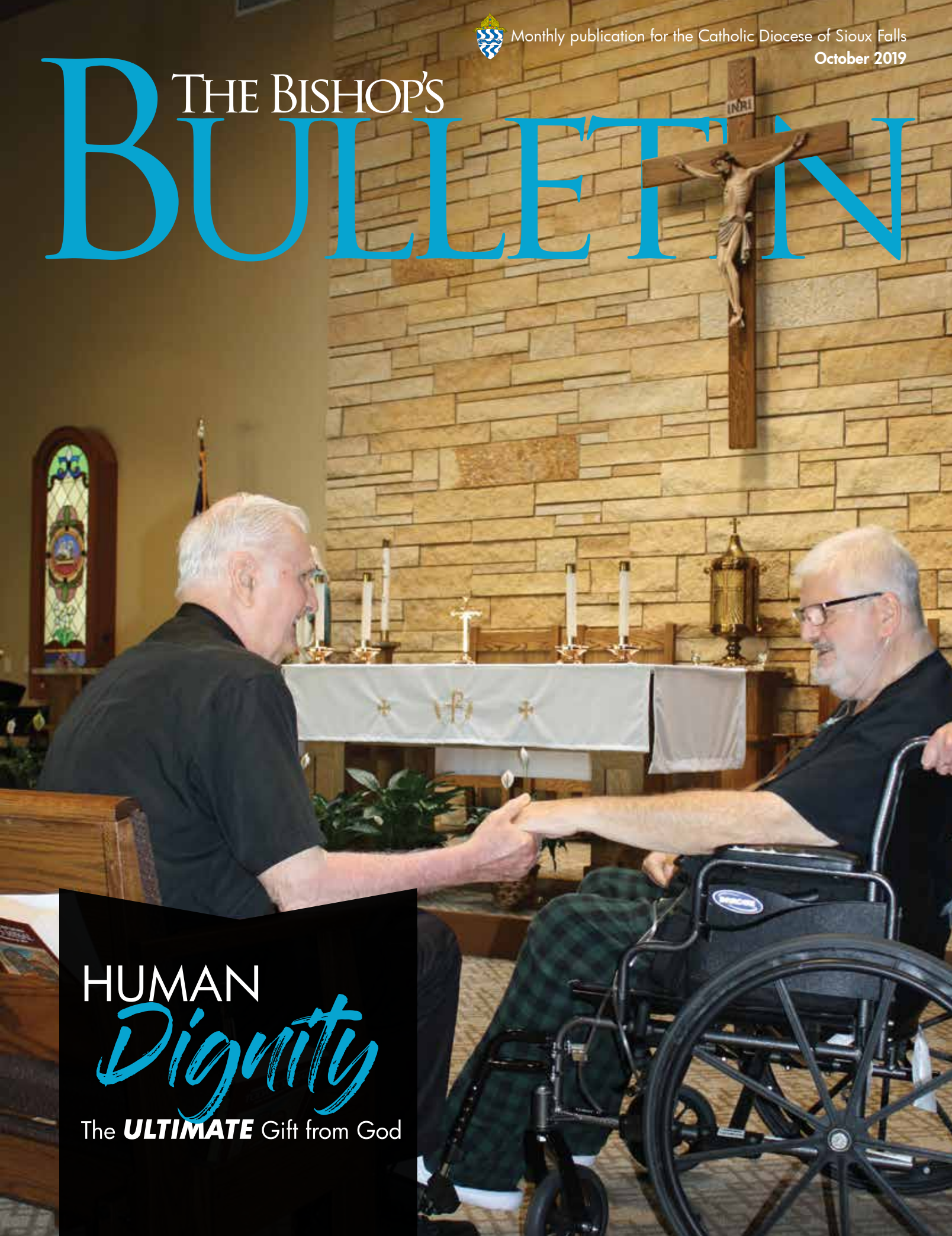




Monthly publication for the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls
October 2019

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN



HUMAN

Dignity

The **ULTIMATE** Gift from God

The right to life is an expression of who and whose we are



When I was in my teens and in the early days of television so long ago, my family like so many, though not Catholic, “religiously” tuned in to then Bishop Fulton Sheen and his “Life is Worth Living” weekly program. It surely influenced me on my spiritual journey, though I clearly was a slow learner. I pray he will soon be formally declared a saint, though he already is to me.

This Bulletin’s theme, “Human Dignity: The Ultimate Gift from God,” was a constant theme of these programs. Below is my column from October 2015, which reflects that message and truth:

“EVERY Life is Worth Living” is the theme for this year’s Respect Life month. Every life means every person beginning at conception through pregnancy, at birth and all the years after birth until natural death. That is because every life is a gift from God. Deep in our souls is planted that truth. Our secular culture however seeks to bury that truth. Yet truth is truth.

Sometimes instinctive reactions, “gut responses,” are teachers. I recall in the days before my conversion when I viewed abortion as simply a matter of personal choice. I visited my doctor’s office. In order to do so I had to walk past a door that had written on it “Madison Abortion Clinic.” I instinctively felt uneasy. Now having been led by the Spirit to the truth that every life is a gift from God to be respected and when necessary supported, I know why I experienced that queasy feeling. Every life is worth living.

I recall visiting my grandmother in a nursing home where she was surrounded with many other elderly dealing with physical and mental challenges. Life is not perfect; suffering is real.

Yet the promise of the world to come for those who are faithful offers strength. Watching her deteriorate before my eyes with little I could do about it raised the question common in our day: Why go through this? Then she smiled at me. I knew then that her life and all lives are worth living.

Our diocese is a special place where faith and family are deeply rooted; life is valued. This is in part because of those who went before and in part because of the hard reality that the land, the prairie, brings forth. How inspirational are those who farmed and ranched, those who raised families and built communities and churches, those who taught and cared for one another, those who appreciated the gift of life and thanked God for it by sharing it with others and passing on their values to us.

As our state changes with the shifts in population and lessening of agricultural focus to high tech, we need to be alert to the threat to those values. The “throw away” culture Pope Francis refers to is not unknown in our midst.

We perhaps need a history lesson on what has made our state and country great and an investment of effort to restore those values which guided that history. Recognizing the sacredness of all life is not a church or Catholic thing, it is a human thing—God’s law written in our hearts. It is under direct and indirect attack.

When Pope Benedict XVI visited the United States a few years ago he spoke of a uniquely American brand of secularism which he said results in “a growing separation of faith from life: living ‘as if God did not exist.’...Christians are easily tempted to conform themselves to the spirit of this age.”

That conformity leads to a lowest common denominator attitude of let’s all just get along, tolerating aberrant behaviors but not tolerating one another or religious liberty, expecting quick fixes without responsibility, seeing others as objects to be used, abused, discarded or ignored.

Saint John Paul the Great put it so beautifully, “Man is called to a fullness of life which far exceeds the dimensions of his earthly existence, because it consists in sharing the very life of God.”

If we believe that, it raises our sights above the low road of the culture that leads to emptiness. It motivates us to respect life every day and in everything we do. It inspires us to pray for and to walk with those who are misled or confused or are hurting.

The recommended intentions for Respect Life Sunday can guide our prayer:

For Catholics throughout the world:
May the Holy Spirit help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living;

For all who are vulnerable, especially unborn children, persons with disabilities, and those who are poor, elderly or suffering from illness: May they be respected and cared for according to their God-given dignity;

For women who are unexpectedly pregnant and filled with anxiety: May the Blessed Mother help them to know they are not alone;

For public authorities: May God grant them the humility, wisdom, and courage to defend life;

For those facing a terminal illness: May they be comforted by God’s love through the support of family and friends, and the local community;

For married couples considering adoption: May the Holy Spirit grant peace and clarity as they seek the will of God;

For people with disabilities: May those around them recognize that every person is a good and perfect gift and treat them accordingly;

For single adults who desire marriage: May God help them grow in perfect love and fill them with trust in His loving care;

For young people: May they discover the freedom and peace that comes from following Jesus’ call to purity,

For all these we pray to the Lord.

Right to life is more than an issue; it is an expression of who and whose we are. May all of us in little and big ways witness with our lives respect for the lives of all persons by doing what we can to allow God’s children, whatever age or condition, to live and to become who He created them to be.

EVERY life is worth living because every life is a gift from God.

Officials



The Most Reverend Paul J. Swain has decreed the following priest assignment changes effective August 28, 2019:

At the request of Father Cathal Gallagher, the local pastor, and with the endorsement of the Very Reverend Michel Mulloy, diocesan administrator of the Diocese of Rapid City, Deacon Harold Condon of the Diocese of Rapid City was accepted for diaconal ministry and assigned to St. Paul Parish in Marty.

Assignment changes effective September 16, 2019:

At his request, Reverend D’Cruz Nicholas was granted a personal leave from assigned ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew K. Althoff
Chancellor

SCHEDULE

October

- 1–3 Clergy Days, Arrowhead Cedar Shore, Oacoma
- 4 6:00 Bless and attend grand opening, Avera on 69th, Sioux Falls
- 5 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 8 12:00 Pray at Planned Parenthood
- 12 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 13 2:00 Confirmation, St. Thomas More, Brookings
- 19 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 20 11:00 Installation of Fr. Michael Fox as pastor, Immaculate Conception, Watertown
- 22 12:00 Diocesan Investment Committee, Catholic Pastoral Center
- 23 7:00 Confirmation, St. Ann, Humboldt and St. Patrick, Montrose in Montrose
- 24 12:00 Diocesan Finance Council, Catholic Pastoral Center
- 26 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 27 9:00 Installation of Fr. Paul Rutten as pastor, St. Mary, Sioux Falls
- 29 4:40 Blessing and grand opening of Avera Addiction Care Center, Sioux Falls

November

- 1 12:00 All Saints Day Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph
- 2 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls
- 3 11:00 Installation of Fr. Thomas Hartman as pastor, St. Joseph, Turton and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Groton in Turton
- 10–15 USCCB Fall Meeting, Baltimore
- 19 12:00 Pray at Planned Parenthood

The challenge of a giant leap

When I was 6 years old, just a few weeks before I started first grade, a lunar module designated “Eagle,” landed on the moon. A little over six hours later, Neil Armstrong, the commander of the mission, stepped from the module to the lunar surface.

The first human being to step on a soil that was not the Earth’s.

Nineteen minutes later, Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, Jr. joined him while their crewmate Michael Collins flew overhead. This was a world-changing event, the 50th anniversary of which we celebrated a few months ago.

I was a bit nostalgic this past summer thinking about the Apollo 11 flight, watching documentaries and miniseries, reading articles and histories, but I will have to be honest about my own personal recollections regarding this event.

I think I remember it, but to be honest, I am not sure. I have a vague recollection of watching it on our old black and white TV, but I cannot swear it happened. I cannot imagine my dad letting an event pass like this without us watching it, so I am confident I saw it, but not entirely sure, being that I was only 6 years old.

I am confident that I saw other moon landings and other moon walks before the last one with Apollo 17 in 1972, and while my mind goes back and forth with the historical accuracy of my first viewing, my heart has no doubt and embraces the image of a little blonde kid sitting on the floor only partially understanding what was happening.

Now I more fully understand and I am amazed at the challenges faced in order for that “one small step” to happen; we had to dock the lunar module to the command module while in Earth’s orbit, fly to the moon, undock, land the lunar module safely (by all accounts, the most difficult of the tasks), walk on the moon, dock again with the command module in lunar orbit, fly back to Earth and safely splash down.

It seems doable now only because we have done it.

Just now it occurs to me it is a bit of a conceit to write “we” when referring to the Apollo missions instead of “they.” I write “we” as if I had anything to do with it other than (presumably) watching it happen; but that “we” is important if we are to under-

stand, not just the “small step,” but the “giant leap” as well.

A few months ago, while in the midst of my nostalgic journey to the moon, I learned something. I was reading an article about the history of the Apollo 11 mission patch worn by the astronauts. Apollo and Gemini patches were designed by the astronauts themselves and then worked over by various officials in NASA.

The Apollo 11 astronauts came up with an image of a bald eagle landing on the moon. They chose the eagle as the primary image because it represented the United States and was the name of their lunar module. They later decided it should have an olive branch in its beak to symbolize their coming to the moon in peace, although officials later moved the branch to the eagle’s talons.

What I learned was that the astronauts, for the first time, requested that their names not be on the patch. They wanted that small detail to express their belief that this was not something they achieved alone, but was an achievement made by the thousands involved in the space program, and ultimately, it would be an achievement made by us all.

It was a human achievement.

This simple detail, the lack of names, is a lovely reminder of what we can do when we are aware of our unity, and our need for that unity. Just think of it, when we put our minds and wills together, we can walk on the moon. Sometimes at night, I glance up at our silent companion in the stars and remember.

It is a lesson I also try to remember on weekends when we gather to celebrate the even more amazing gift of the Eucharist; a simple reminder that we are in this together. I realize, when preaching, that I can make pronouncements of Divine expectation that can seem almost impossible, but then I remember.

We are not called to live and be the Kingdom alone, we are called to do it together, as a family, and together with our Brother and Lord. We are given this family for a reason.

One last detail on that mission patch; in the background is the Earth, distant and beautiful. This is our home, our fragile, aching home and all the people on it, waiting for us to remember again.



The Bishop's Bulletin

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Subscriptions

\$24 per year, or as part of each family's CFSA contribution.

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Anniversaries, copy and advertising
deadline for the November edition
is October 15.

The Bishop's Bulletin

(ISSN 0193-5089) is published monthly by the
Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls, 523 N. Duluth Ave.,
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714 and entered as Periodical
Postage Paid at Aberdeen, SD, and other cities.

Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls

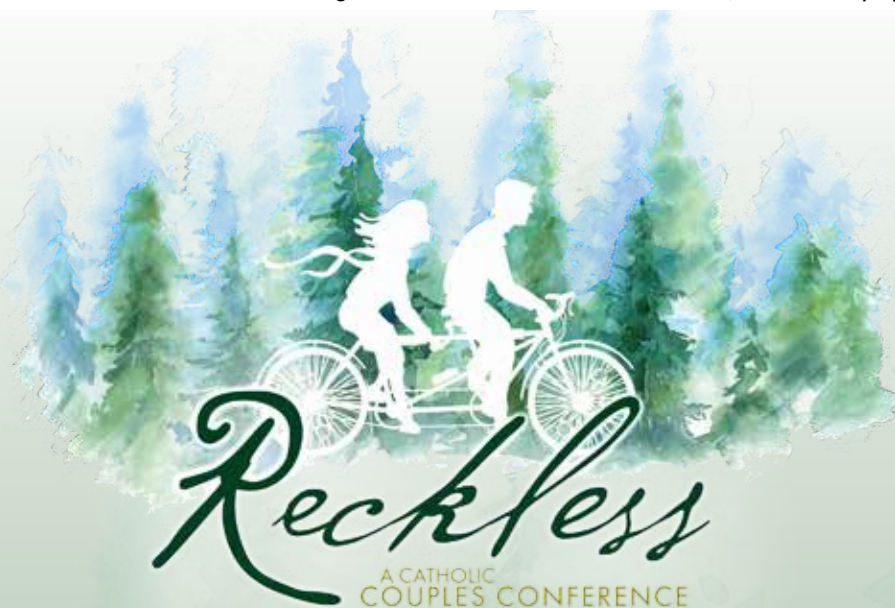
October 2019

Volume 72, Number 10

St. Rose of Lima church building 100th year



St. Rose of Lima Parish, Garretson, celebrated the 100th year of their church building August 25 with Bishop Paul J. Swain and Fr. Jeffrey Norfolk. Parishioners enjoyed a meal, music by their folk group, train rides, games and SDSU ice cream after Mass. (Photo courtesy by Tricia Wagner)



FEBRUARY 1-2, 2020

HILTON GARDEN INN, SIOUX FALLS



Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls
Office of Marriage and Family

Registration Available Online:

www.sfcatholic.org/couplesconference

Got Questions? Check out our FAQ's on our website or give us a call 605-988-3755



Fr. Ed Anderson, priest at Averā Prince of Peace, greets Pat Gustaf and his sister Jean Gustaf after Mass in the chapel at Prince of Peace. (Photo by Renae Kranz)

HUMAN *Dignity*

The **ULTIMATE** Gift from God

By Renae Kranz

When you see someone you perceive as different from you, maybe a homeless person or someone who is disabled, what pops into your mind?

If we're honest with ourselves, we probably wouldn't want anyone to know what we're thinking. It might go something like this:

That person makes me uncomfortable. I don't like to be uncomfortable. If I pretend I don't see them, they'll probably leave me alone, and I won't have to deal with them. I'm glad that's not me.

Sound even a little familiar?

It sounds familiar because many of us have those thoughts. We might not mean to, and we might quickly correct ourselves and choose a different action rather than avoidance. But we're human. We seek comfort and avoid conflict.

But our faith calls us to a different reaction. Why? Because of a beautiful gift freely given to us by our God—our human dignity.

The Church's teaching on human dignity

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) defines human dignity this way:

Of all visible creatures only man is “able to know and love his creator.” He is “the only creature on earth that God has willed for its own sake,” and he alone is called to share, by knowledge and love, in God's own life. It was for this end that he was created, and this is the fundamental reason for his dignity. (CCC 356)

What greater calling can there be than to know and love our creator? Fido and fluffy can't do that. Oh, they might love your company and be distressed when you're gone, but they can't know the very God who created them. They don't even know they were created by anything. When you think about it, the differences between humans and all other creation are staggering—that is our human dignity.

The CCC continues with more clarity:

Being in the image of God, the human individual possesses the dignity of a person, who is not just something, but someone. He is capable of self-knowledge, of self-possession and of freely giving himself and entering into communion with other persons. And he is called by grace to a covenant with his Creator, to offer him a response of faith and love that no other creature can give in his stead. (CCC 357)

God's creative gift applies to everybody, everywhere, in all times. Bishop Paul Swain sees the apostles as perfect examples of the diversity of creation. They came from very different backgrounds, had different personalities, and strengths and weaknesses, yet Jesus chose them all to do his work. And among them was Judas who betrayed Jesus but still had dignity as part of God's human creation.

Regardless of our perceptions of others, the gift of human dignity permeates every human person.

"Human dignity is a recognition that every person is gifted by God with life," Bishop Swain says. "And so we're all...deserving of respect. We should treat each other with dignity and not discriminate against and not look down upon others, recognizing the great diversity among us, that we're all children of God."

Where we go wrong

Daryl Thuringer, delegate and director of Parish and School Services for the diocese, tries to see every person as a special gift from God to the world. He says the Church teaches us to treat others with the same respect we would give God.

Can you imagine what the world would be like if we all followed that Church teaching? But we often veer away from that teaching to a skewed idea of human dignity, causing many to get pushed to the margins.

Thuringer feels that the definition of human dignity we have created in our society is often too fluid. We see dignity in a person as dependent upon who you are, what you've done or what situation you're in. Each person seems to define dignity in their own personal way.

Examples of what Thuringer is referring to abound. A child has human dignity unless they aren't born yet; at the same time, if a pregnant mother is murdered, the assailant can be charged with double homicide. A homeless person has dignity unless he's drunk. An ex-con has dignity unless he has too many tattoos. As soon as we're uncomfortable, dignity goes out the window.

"Say you're walking down the street, and you run into a homeless person and they ask you for 50 cents. That's getting too close," Thuringer says. "That's making me

uncomfortable. So now it's my human dignity that's being infringed on. So I no longer see that person and their human dignity, because it infringes on mine. Society says it's okay for us to shun someone, which in essence strips them of their human dignity, which strips both of us of our human dignity."

Bishop Swain sees this as a focus on self-centeredness. Rather than seeing our common human nature and dignity, we tend to see our differences and how we stack up against other's differences. It's a constant game of comparing.

"This self-centeredness has resulted over the centuries in discrimination, slavery, wars, viewing ourselves as somewhat better than others, or having an exalted view of what's right and wrong based upon our own self interests," Bishop Swain says. "Part of it is because of our fallen human nature. Part of it is because I honestly believe Satan takes advantage of those weaknesses in us."

Why does this dichotomy between what the Church teaches and what we as a society do instead exist in the first place? It all comes down to human freedom.

Our good God gave us a great gift—the free will to choose Him or to turn away. He gave us human freedom so we could express our dignity with our choices. Does that mean we are free to do whatever we want? Not exactly.

Bishop Swain explains that the true definition of freedom is to do what we ought. In other words, to choose the moral way.

"There's a difference between that type of freedom and the freedom to say, okay, I'm just going to do what serves my own interests," Bishop Swain says. "The freedom to do what we ought to do is not always clear to us at certain times. That's one reason why we sin. That's one reason why the church reminds us often of Christ's love and mercy."

Deacon Chet Cordell reminds us it's important to remember we're all sinners, but we're also all loved by God. If we don't think we sin, we might also think we're better than someone else.

"To know that God loves you, well that also means God loves him and her," Deacon Chet says. "That's a balance of perspective. I think if we keep that in front of our eyes, we're on the right path."

Thankfully, our way isn't God's way. He wants us to give life to others and help them in their weakness. As Catholics, our opportunities to do just that spring out of our relationship with God through His Son. When that relationship is strong and deep, our human dignity is easy to share with others.

Homeless: pushed to the fringes of society

Thuringer, who is also the board president for the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House (BDHH), has seen the difficulties faced by the homeless population. He says even though those who work and volunteer at the BDHH look at them as having dignity, it's hard for the homeless to see it in themselves.

"We welcome them and respect their dignity, but they need to regain their own sense of dignity," Thuringer says. "It doesn't happen overnight. It doesn't happen just by us telling them that they are still a child of God and they are still loved."

While they respect their dignity, BDHH also respects their free will. No one is forced to receive services from the group. They come on their own and stay of their own accord.

"If that's the way they choose to live [in the streets], we'll help them if we can, but we also can't strip them of their free will," Thuringer explained. "We can advise them. We can encourage them to make other choices. But in the end, that person endowed with free will from God will make their own choice."

Staff and volunteers work to meet each person where they are. While guests stay, they are asked to help take care of their temporary home. They might be asked to wash or fold sheets, wipe down beds, clean bathrooms or wash the floor. Performing these duties to take care of the facility helps them feel their dignity again.

"To me that gives them part of that dignity and work ethic and helps them build up their dignity and their pride," Thuringer says. "Some people have to be able to do a few things before they can look in the mirror and feel proud about what they've done. They feel stripped of their dignity, so when they come to us, we have to reassure them that they still have it, that they're still



a dignified, loving person."

Helping take care of the facility gives them a chance to say, "I don't just stay here, I help with the place." It's an important step among many to help them on the road to self-sufficiency. BDHH offers resources to help with housing and job opportunities and addiction care if the person is open to it.

"One of our main jobs is to instill hope," Thuringer says. "Because you've kind of lost some hope when you're homeless."

Prisoners face similar challenges

Prison is a scary and often hopeless place. Here people become only a last name, a faceless being with no one to love them and no one to show them mercy. But God doesn't see them that way.

To God, a prisoner is just one of his children who is in trouble and needs Him more than most right now. He offers love and mercy. Many times, those things are delivered through deacons, priests and other volunteers in prison ministry.

Deacon Chet ministers to prisoners at the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls. He sees his job as an opportunity to walk with them during a time of crisis.

"It's a battleground hospital site," Deacon Chet says. "I know the penitentiary isn't a parish, but in my heart that's my parish. I can talk to them. I can pray with them. I can listen to them."

It's his job to help them feel their human dignity again. One way he does that is by using their first names when talking to them to show them respect.

"If you're going to give up on somebody else's humanity, aren't you giving up on part of you? Because what part of your humanity is different than this one? That's what salvation and grace are all about."

Prison is an easy place to lose hope and a sense of dignity. After being judged by the courts and often their families and friends, inmates don't see a light at the end of the tunnel. They lack a community and good influences to help them find a better path.

"There's this preconceived notion that because they're tattooed up and because they have a big 'F' felony behind their name, they're not worth dealing with," Deacon Chet says. "Because they're losers they're never gonna change. But they can change and they do."

Recidivism rates in South Dakota have risen over the years. Doing things to help inmates find their

God-given dignity and hope again are key. Pastoral care provided by chaplains helps while they're on the inside. And Deacon Chet has seen inmates succeed on the outside when they have the right support and a faith community. But we have to temper our initial expectations.

"A lot of these guys aren't going to come to Sunday Mass," Deacon Chet says. "If that's what your expectation is, well then your ministry isn't going to go too far because not everybody has progressed that far."

He says we can do simple things like ask if they got enough to eat today or if they need help finding a job. Talk to them like they have the same dignity we do. They need to know someone cares about them. As Deacon Chet says, "That's what true Christian community is supposed to do."

Deacon Chet has seen great examples of prisoners taking care of each other, letting their human dignity show through without even knowing it themselves.

"You'll see sometimes some of the older guys who are sick and they'll have a younger guy pushing them around in their wheelchair. You see they're developing this bond, they're forming a little community," Deacon Chet says. "That's where the Lord is. The Lord is just as much in prison as he is anywhere else. It's beautiful to see."

Deacon Chet Cordell's wife Colleen stands in front of the Dignity statue in Chamberlain. Designed by sculptor Dale Lamphere, he says of his creation: "Dignity represents the courage, perseverance and wisdom of the Lakota and Dakota culture in South Dakota. My hope is that the sculpture might serve as a symbol of respect and promise for the future."
(Photo courtesy of Deacon Chet Cordell)

Human dignity makes no room for racism

Our country is without question a racially diverse place. South Dakota, while not as diverse, is experiencing the integration of more races of people than in the past. It's a good thing to see, and we should all embrace the new faces.

Our past wasn't always so pretty though, and at times it spills into today. The Native Americans who were here when our state was settled and the generations of their ancestors since have had a tough go of it. This has been mostly due to some who

thought a person's color somehow contributed to their human dignity. Rather than try to live in peace, they were overrun and pushed aside.

Today, Deacon Chet, who serves as director of diocesan outreach to Native Americans, still sees Native Americans in our state struggling with the dominant society. As a communal-oriented culture, they feel secure in their local communities and tend to avoid venturing out much. When they do, Deacon Chet says the walls go up.

"They (outsiders) don't realize the hardship that's generational in so many cases," Deacon Chet says.



“Maybe their great grandfather was hurt by a white settler or maybe through the boarding school. Then the guard’s up, and we’re not open to an exchange of ideas because they all get shot down.”

Deacon Chet’s wife Colleen is Native American, so he has seen how she and their children are treated by some people. Things are changing for the better, but there is still much work to do. And it starts with the youth.

Colleen has seen native kids riding with white kids in cars after school. She noted to her husband that would never have happened when she was young. It’s been good to see.

“If we just realize that we’re all part of this family,” Deacon Chet says. “It’s not just the Jewish people who are God’s chosen people. We’re part of that heritage now. And that includes everybody.”

By remembering that all people, no matter their race, are part of the beautiful dignity God gave us, we can embrace our differences and welcome each other into this big family of God.

Elderly still have value

Those who have grown old are sometimes overlooked because they aren’t out in the world making a lot of noise. They are more often alone or pushed to the side because we don’t think they have much to offer.

Father Ed Anderson provides pastoral care at Avera Prince of Peace Retirement Community in Sioux Falls. He has seen the wisdom and life experiences of the people he serves and knows their experiences are valuable to others.

“We need to look at older people, not ignore them, but look at them with respect,” Father Anderson says. “Give them the dignity they deserve. It would surprise many of us that we can learn a lot from older people who perhaps don’t even talk that much.

“It’s not only what they can offer to

us, but what we can offer to them. We can offer them the dignity they deserve and the attention they deserve. It can be a very positive relationship,” he says.

Recently, the elderly are in increasing danger because of euthanasia laws that have been passed in several states in our country. Some think they become a burden on others and that it would be better if they weren’t around. Father Anderson says the elderly have value, whether healthy or days from meeting their creator.

“I think taking care of people who are sick or who appear to be in pain or don’t appear to contribute anything seems to be more of a burden on ourselves than it is a burden on them,” Father Anderson says. “The Church looks at life as being a precious commodity and only God, or the circumstances, can take a life.”

Some who argue for euthanasia say people shouldn’t have to suffer or that suffering is only bad. However, God can use suffering for the good of others. Remember how your mother or grandmother used to tell you to “offer it up”? This action can have great power in people’s lives.

“Jesus did this when he was on

the cross. I look at suffering not as something to necessarily be endured, although that’s what we do,” Father Anderson says. “But I look at it as something that we can use to bring goodness to the world through what we experience and goodness to other people.”

That is the gift of human dignity—using what happens to us for the good of others. Jesus did this as an example for us to follow and a way to get closer to Him. Young or old, we can join our sufferings to His for the good of others.

Father Anderson says we can be a light to elderly who may be lonely, especially those still at home. Check with your parish to see if there are older people who need visitors. We fear being alone as we get older. Let’s try not to leave others alone as they grow old as well.

“Our older people are often times our prayer warriors,” Father Anderson says. “As we’re getting older, we still have the ability to bring the presence of God to other people and to improve the lives of other people around us. That doesn’t go away as a person gets older.”



Fr. Ed Anderson goes over Mass details with Eva Anderson (left) and Clare Becker (center). The two women, residents of Avera Prince of Peace, are a critical part of daily Masses at the retirement facility. (Photo by Renae Kranz)



The Reel family: in back are Grace (16), Tom Reel, Jodi Reel, Jack (18); in front are Claire (12), Mark (6), Nathan (9), and Jon (14).

Disabled have lots to offer

People with disabilities face some of the same challenges as elderly people. We sometimes see them as having less to offer, but that couldn't be further from the truth. Their gifts may be different or at different levels than those of others. They just want an opportunity to share their gifts and their dignity with others.

Jodi Reel, whose son Jack has autism, sees how people with disabilities live in the present and are fully open to give and receive love without reservation. She sees their pure joy and acceptance of things as they are.

"I've noticed that people who have disabilities seem to recognize God, hear God, and respond far more quickly than we do," Reel says. "Jack has an ability to bring everything to its essential, and he, by far, has the most knowledge of God in our household, by sheer gift of being able to accept things as they are."

Reel also sees the fear in other people because they don't know how to act or if they have what it takes to interact with people with disabilities. They're afraid they'll do it wrong. But you can't do love wrong. You can't mess up when you respect dignity.

"They cannot see Jack's dignity because they can't see him," Reel says. "However, there are people who have come into our lives who do see Jack as another soul, who know that everyone's needs are the same,

regardless of ability. That need is to love and to be loved, to know and to be known, to be needed and heard. Those people have been a tremendous blessing in our lives."

The Church can also be a blessing. For many years, religious education has been difficult for families with children who have disabilities. But it's something the Church has been working on. Jack has recently started volunteering at their parish, St. Lambert in Sioux Falls. And through the Special Needs Ministry, the diocese has begun implementing tools and education for parishes to bring those with disabilities into parish life.

Even the Totus Tuus group got involved this summer. On their only day off from traveling and working with kids around the diocese, they offered a one-day camp for kids with disabilities. And everyone loved it.

"It was an amazing day," says Thuringer. "The kids loved it because they learned so much. And the parents felt included because we all want our children to have those opportunities."

Reel sees what some might consider a burden to be a blessing in her life. She understands that she has little control over life. So she surrenders control to God instead, which releases her of fear and worry.

"That surrender can be a beautiful thing," Reel says. "People with disabilities show us how to be able to love and receive love, to find joy in

the simple things, to rely on people with humility and trust. They teach us patience towards others, how to let go of our expectations, go with the flow, and embrace the reality before us. People don't have a less life because they have a different life. Jack has taught me all of that. He is a gift."

How should we respond?

When others need us, what do we do? Do we reach out or turn away?

When we reach out, we make a choice that builds human dignity. When we turn away, we strip away our own dignity and those we turn away from. Will we take advantage of the opportunities around us? Bishop Swain says how we love our neighbor reflects on how we love our Lord.

"It's important to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ to kind of center us," Bishop Swain says. "We have to recognize differences and diversity are not bad things. God created us. We're all God's children in all of our diversity, and that can guide how we relate to one another, even though it's hard sometimes."

Though difficult, our calling as Catholics points toward honoring the dignity of everyone around us. Reel says those who challenge us are gifts because they give us the opportunity to give of ourselves, to be gifts in return. Everyone has something to offer and a need to be loved.

"Because God created and loves them, the best we can offer God is to love them as well. All we have to offer is ourselves, which is a gift, but this is something people have a hard time accepting," Reel says. "Often, if we can't offer material things, healing, or other tangible gifts, we can choose to ignore the least among us, believing that we have nothing to give."

"But when we have the humility to accept that all we have is ourselves, and that is enough, then beautiful things can happen."

Use your God-given freedom to “do human” well

The early 20th century convert G.K. Chesterton once described the United States as “a nation with the soul of a church.” Taking that idea one step further, we could fairly say that the central doctrine of our country is freedom. In this column I’d like to think a bit more deeply about the nature of freedom: what it is, what it isn’t, and why, exactly, it matters.

In many ways, to be an American means to celebrate freedom. Just consider the formal name for the 4th of July: Independence Day, the day on which we celebrate our freedom from English rule and the birth of our own (independent) country.

The idea of freedom is deeply woven into the DNA, so to speak, of our country; it’s hard to avoid the celebration of freedom. The idea is right there in the words of the Declaration of Independence itself, signed on July 4, 1776:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

After the right to Life, the right to Liberty, to freedom, is the most important right which we possess, according to the Declaration.

But what, exactly, do we mean by freedom?

For most of us, the definition that comes to mind when we think about freedom is usually something like, “the ability to do what I want.” In other words, to be free means I can choose what I want to do, when I want to do it, with the typical caveat that it can’t be something that harms someone else (I’m not free to take your money, for instance).

To use more precise language, it means that we have the right to self-determination. I, alone, can determine the course of my own life; no one else can determine it for me.

This sense of freedom is sometimes described as “freedom from coercion,”



Dr. Chris Burgwald is the director of Adult Discipleship and Evangelization for the Diocese of Sioux Falls.

meaning that to be free means I am free from any limitations on my actions (again, on the condition that I do no harm to others in the process). And it is definitely one dimension of freedom, and it is the dimension with which we are most familiar.

“Freedom from coercion” is not, however, the only dimension of what it means to be free. In fact, it is not the most important dimension of freedom. For when we look to not only God’s Word as found in the Bible and in the teachings of the Church, but also when we look more deeply at the nature of human experience, we see there is another, deeper dimension of human freedom, one which we too often neglect.

It is the interior freedom to excel, to strive to “be all that we can be.” It is the kind of freedom possessed by those who “do human” well.

Just as there is a certain freedom experienced by the professional athlete when they are “in the zone,” so too is there a freedom which we experience when we are “in the zone” of being human, of thriving as a hu-

man being. Or think of a high-performance sports car when it is finely-tuned with a full tank of gas—it is capable of excellence as a car.

So, too, are we as human beings when we “do human” well. And how do we know how to “do human” well? In the same way that we know how to ensure that our car “does car” well—by paying attention to what the manufacturer tells us.

While in the case of our car it is the car maker, in the case of us it is our God. To “do human” well we have to be attentive to what He has revealed to us about how we are to live.

Too often we tend to see God’s teachings as limitations on our freedom. In fact, His Word is not a limitation but is actually the condition for our freedom.

If we want to be truly free, we need to follow His commandments, because like the owner’s manual for our cars, His teachings hold the key to our perfection, to our thriving, to our fulfillment—to our freedom.

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

An urgent call to recognize the dignity of the unborn

By Respect Life Office

October is Respect Life Month. We set aside an entire month to recognize the innate dignity God has given to the human person. One aspect we continue to emphasize is the dignity of a baby in the womb, which should be a safe place for all unborn babies.

Emily Leedom, director of Marriage, Family and Respect Life for the Diocese, says between abortion and technological advances in society allowing us to “create” a new life, we have several fronts to fight for the dignity and rights of the unborn.

On one front, human embryos are being created with no regard for the fact that these embryos are actual humans. Leedom points out that when you ask Google how many frozen embryos are currently in the United States, you might be shocked to learn the number is an estimated 1 million.

“That is 1 million tiny babies, with unique DNA, God-given souls with unfathomable worth, frozen in time with no hope of being raised by the parents from whom they came,” Leedom says.

In the words of *Donum Vitae* (“Gift of Life”), a 1987 Vatican document defending the dignity of human embryos, what an “absurd fate.”

Technology is advancing at an unprecedented rate and is allowing humans to achieve remarkable feats never before imagined. But just because we can, doesn’t always mean we should.

Ironically, reproductive technology seems to have become a leading threat to the sanctity of human life and human dignity in our day.

“Efforts to create life are killing millions in its wake,” Leedom says. “If the law was written in such a way that IVF clinics had to begin reporting their discarded embryos as the abortions they are, IVF clinics would become the leading abortionists in the country.”

Leedom says she’s deeply empathetic to the heart of it all—humans desiring to have children and build families. But it’s a dangerous road to walk.

“The desire for children is beautiful, but perhaps if we could control it a bit more, on our terms, in our time, oh and with blue eyes and blonde hair. Scratch that. Brown eyes and dark skin and Harvard bound. Yes, that will do. Who needs God?” Leedom says.

As the ethicist, Jennifer Lahl, contends, contraception allowed us to have sex without babies, and reproductive technology allowed us to have babies without sex. We’ve separated sexuality from procreation and the world is bleeding because of it.

Leedom understands that couples who have chosen IVF or surrogacy often pray earnestly and thank God if they succeed and hold a beautiful child in their arms. No matter how the child came to be, they are a true gift to their parents and the world.

“Yet, I can’t help but imagine Christ weeping over the ‘souls on ice’ still sitting in a cooler, or the surrogate mother whom He never intended to be a rental body,” Leedom says.

Leedom wants pro-lifers to see that the tables are turning and we’ve got some work to do. Embracing the dignity of human life requires us to look at the world differently and see a vision for life that embraces joy, even amidst suffering. A vision that recognizes human dignity before even recognizing a fully formed body.

“It’s a vision that puts our time and money where our mouth is by supporting single mothers, mentoring fathers, and assisting those couples who bravely choose to build their families through the adoption process,” Leedom says.

Leedom sums it up well:

“I was recently reading the famous Dr. Seuss book, ‘Horton Hears a Who’ to my 2-year-old and came across the famous line, ‘A person’s a person, no matter how small.’ Sometimes it’s the simplest thing, in the simplest place, that reveals the most profound truth.”

If you’d like more information about fertility alternatives to IVF and surrogacy, visit the Saint Paul VI Institute’s website at www.popepaulvi.com. They specialize in natural fertility regulation, NaPro Technology, and moral solutions to women’s health care.





Above and top right: Holy Cross Parish, Ipswich, celebrated their Patronal Feast Day, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, September 15. Parishioners had the opportunity to venerate a relic of the True Cross (photo above). They prayed a public rosary to honor Our Lady of Sorrows (photo top right), and a Mass was celebrated for the soul of Fr. Frederick Boorman, pastor of Holy Cross Parish from 1911-1947. Fr. Timothy Smith presided at the Mass with accompaniment by the Holy Cross Choir and altar servers. (Photos by Lynn Thares)

Above: St. Paul Parish, White, held their annual Harvest Mass at the Jim and Rose Horner farm. Parishioners also burned palms for use at Palm Sunday Masses. Other activities included a CCD kick-off and potluck picnic. (Photo courtesy of Tammy Byers)



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UPCOMING RETREATS

SILENT RETREATS

Men's 2019-2020
 October 24-27
 November 21-24
 February 20-23
 March 19-22

Women's 2019-2020
 October 17-20
 November 7-10
 February 6-9
 March 5-8

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.

Oct 15: St. Teresa of Avila, Practical Spirituality of Falling in Love with Jesus
 - directed by Fr. Joe Forcelle

Nov 5: Rebuking the Devil
 - directed by Dr. Teri Kemmer

Dec 10: TBD
 - directed by Fr. David Roehrich

SPECIAL RETREATS

Oct 11-13: Inner Healing Retreat
 - directed by Mike Snyder & Jane Barz

Oct 20-24: Fall Priest Retreat
 - directed by Fr. James Steffes

Dec 6-8: Couples Retreat
 - directed by Fr. John Rutten

Dec 14: One Day Silent Retreat
 - directed by Fr. Steven Jones



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Parish suppers bring people together

Local
CHURCH

Every fall you know it's coming. You've seen the list and probably circled a couple of them in the back of The Bishop's Bulletin.

It's the return of the church bazaar.

They have lots of names: bazaar, supper, soup kitchen, fall festival. No matter what you call it, you look forward to the wonderful food, friends, games, and of course the cake walk.

Why do we do this every year?

Church suppers and bazaars have been a staple for generations. They're a chance for parishes to gather for a meal, converse with friends, comfort the lonely and meet someone new.

It can also be a way for parishes to raise money for good causes or feed the hungry in their community.

Father DeWayne Kayser, pastor at St. Thomas Aquinas in Madison, said his parishioners have theirs to "get people together to meet new people and celebrate our Catholic heritage." This year they served over 230 people.

"My favorite part of our bazaar is the outdoor Mass at our lake property," Father Kayser said. "It is right on the lake shore, and we hear the water crashing on the shore and the birds singing and the sun in our faces."

Many, including Father Kayser, enjoyed live music playing during the festivities. He feels like the event was a success.

"I have heard many people say they were able to meet new people and forge a good friendship because of that day," Father Kayser said.

Find many more suppers coming up listed on page 23.



St. Thomas Aquinas, Madison, outdoor Mass at Lake Herman (above). Dinner at Immaculate Conception, Watertown (below).



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How well do you know your bishop? He's not someone you see around very often unless someone is being confirmed, joining the church, or being ordained.

But every bishop has a back story. Every bishop is just a man chosen to walk in the footsteps of the apostles, and a media group out of Brooklyn, New York, wants to have a conversation with today's apostles.

DeSales Media Group is traveling to dioceses across the U.S. interviewing bishops for a series called "The Chair," 22-minute videos that tell the story of the Catholic Church in America and each bishop's story of his cathedral, his community, and the future of that community.

Series host Monsignor Kieren Harrington, executive producer Jack St. Martin and their crew visited the Diocese of Sioux Falls in September to interview and film Bishop Paul Swain in the Cathedral of Saint Joseph. They spent about an hour talking with the bishop about his conversion, his time as bishop and the community.

The New Yorkers couldn't help but be impressed with what they saw here. Monsignor Harrington noticed the Cathedral spires as he was driving from the airport to his destination. And he was wowed when

he walked into the Cathedral, noticing how its beauty connects us to Christ.

"In Catholic churches, there is a great deal of activity taking place because this is where the community gathers," Monsignor Harrington said. "When you have something which is beautiful, it elevates the soul."

The nature of the series is about how faith has grown historically in each diocese from the perspective of the shepherd. It will be run first locally in the diocese where it was filmed; then it will move to both secular and Catholic media distribution over time.

Monsignor Harrington hopes it will reach Catholics who may have been away from the Church as well as non-Catholics who are interested in faith.

"I'm hopeful that maybe this will be an opportunity to cause people to take a look at some beautiful places," Monsignor Harrington said, "and if they go and take a look at beautiful places, they can see how that maybe opens them up to God."

He also hopes practicing Catholics will watch and see something that makes them proud. Ultimately, the goal is to reach everybody.

The series will be in production for approximately a year.



Healing the Inner Child
Each of us has some need to heal the child within. Befriend the "little one" in you, in this environment of prayer surrounded by God's healing love.
Nov. 8, 7pm - Nov. 9, 8pm

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Governor Kristi Noem has farmed and ranched in South Dakota for many years. She's pictured here touring flood-damaged areas.

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Adult Faith Formation Coordinator
605.886.2772 adultff@icparishwatertown.org

Msgr. James P. Shea, president of the University of Mary, will conduct a three day mission at Immaculate Conception Church, in Watertown, South Dakota.

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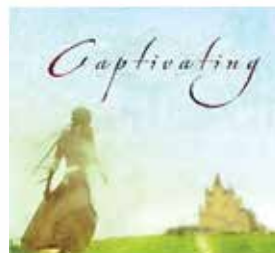
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Days of Recollection

October 8th | **Ecclesiastes: Vanity of Vanities; Does anything last?** | Speaker: Fr. Jim Friedrich

November 13th | **Total Commitment: Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ** | Speaker: Dr. Chris Burgwald

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Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Sioux Falls

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Sacred Arts Series: Encounter beauty and music at the Cathedral

Local
CHURCH

If you need time for reflection and to encounter God in a new setting, consider one of the concerts in the Sacred Arts Series at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph. The new season promises to be the perfect place to find a little respite from the busyness of life.

Cathedral of Saint Joseph Choir Director Jared Ostermann loves the series because it opens the Cathedral to the community, allowing everyone the chance to experience beautiful art and music in a non-liturgical, but still sacred, context.

"We can look back over the Church's history and see what a central role Catholic cathedrals have played in the development of art, architecture and music," Ostermann says. "The Sacred Arts Series allows the Cathedral of Saint Joseph to support the local arts community and to



be a leader in the artistic life of the city and region."

With the next concert date set for Nov. 2, those attending can expect to hear music in a cathedral known for its world-class acoustics.

"The Cathedral itself adds so many layers to the music—for the ear, the eye and the soul. It's hard to put into words, but I strongly encourage people to come to a concert and experience it for themselves."

This year's series includes concert choirs, vocal ensembles, a string quartet and the Cathedral of Saint Joseph Choir. For more details, concert dates, and to purchase tickets, visit www.stjosephcathedral.net/sas.

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Committed in CHRIST



ABERDEEN – Scott and Kim Kram will celebrate their 25th anniversary on October 8. They have 2 children and are members of St. Mary Parish.



ABERDEEN – Travis and Therese Rux celebrated their 50th anniversary on September 19. They have 5 children, 11 grandchildren and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.



COLMAN – Bruce and Darlene Cramer will celebrate their 45th anniversary on October 18. They have 3 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of St. Peter Parish.



DANTE – Ernie and Theresa Kocer will celebrate their 50th anniversary on October 4. They have 3 children, 11 grandchildren and are members of Assumption Parish.



DELL RAPIDS – Darrell and Cleo Donelan will celebrate their 60th anniversary on October 24. They have 5 children, 13 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



ELK POINT – Joel and Nancy Ryan will celebrate their 50th anniversary on October 6. They have 2 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Joseph Parish.



GARRETSON – Norman and Elaine Benson will celebrate their 65th anniversary on October 11. They have 5 children, 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Rose of Lima Parish.



MITCHELL – David and Anne Wieger celebrated their 50th anniversary on September 20. They have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



MITCHELL – Bob and Julie Sebert will celebrate their 25th anniversary on October 1. They have 4 children and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



MITCHELL – Willie and Kay Schoenfelder will celebrate their 55th anniversary on October 24. They have 5 children, 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



MITCHELL – Rob and Barb Morgan will celebrate their 55th anniversary on October 3. They have 8 children, 30 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



PARKER – Jerry and Lonna Kippes will celebrate their 50th anniversary on October 4. They have 6 children, 16 grandchildren and are members of St. Christina Parish.



REDFIELD – David and Shirley Holt will celebrate their 40th anniversary on October 26. They have 4 children, 7 grandchildren and are members of St. Bernard Parish.



REDFIELD – Duane and Marie Mason will celebrate their 68th anniversary on October 29. They have 4 children, 10 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Bernard Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – John and Mavis Jenkins will celebrate their 65th anniversary on October 20. They have 3 children (1 deceased), 2 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren and are members of Christ the King Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Herman and Marian Plagge will celebrate their 65th anniversary on October 12. They are members of Christ the King Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – George and Clare Johnson will celebrate their 70th anniversary on October 8. They have 6 children, 13 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Jim and Donna Puthoff will celebrate their 25th anniversary on October 8. They have 5 children, 9 grandchildren (1 deceased) and are members of St. Therese Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Dean and Mary Rosenberg will celebrate their 50th anniversary on October 18. They are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Dave and Andrea Haga will celebrate their 25th anniversary on October 1. They have 3 children and are members of St. Katharine Drexel Parish.

Continued on next page



SIOUX FALLS – Ed and Margy Jakos will celebrate their 30th anniversary on October 7. They have 4 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Lambert Parish.



WATERTOWN – Randy and Sue Holiday will celebrate their 50th anniversary on October 7. They have 6 children (1 deceased), 14 grandchildren and are members of Immaculate Conception Parish.



WAUBAY – Lyle and Candace Zirbel celebrated their 35th anniversary on September 1. They have 9 children, 15 grandchildren and are members of Immaculate Conception Parish.



WAUBAY – Gene and Marcie Beisch will celebrate their 40th anniversary on October 20. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of Immaculate Conception Parish.



WEBSTER – Jerry and Carol Hanten will celebrate their 50th anniversary on October 11. They have 3 children, 10 grandchildren and are members of Christ the King Parish.



YANKTON – John and Marian Becvar celebrated their 65th anniversary on September 14. They have 4 children, 11 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.



YANKTON – John and Pat Gebhart will celebrate their 50th anniversary on October 4. They have 10 children, 26 grandchildren and are members of St. Benedict Parish.



YANKTON – Jerry and Kathy Hoffman will celebrate their 35th anniversary on October 13. They have 6 children and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.

Anniversary submissions

Send a color photo, your anniversary news and a self-addressed, stamped envelope by October 15 for inclusion in the November 2019 edition to:

The Bishop's Bulletin
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Upcoming events aim to inspire

Youth Conference

Jesus invited his disciples long ago with these words, "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

The Sioux Falls Diocese invites youth today using the same words, "Come Follow Me," to the 2019 Youth Conference on November 9 at the Swiftel Center in Brookings.

Youth in grades 6-12 and adult leaders from parishes can expect a day filled with music, speakers, eucharistic adoration, Mass with the bishop, confession and plenty of fun and games.

The Youth Conference will focus on responding "Yes" to Christ's invitation to follow Him in whatever ways He calls you to do so.

Eric Gallagher, director of

Youth Discipleship and Evangelization for the diocese, says young people attending will hear about Jesus's love for them and will experience that love in prayer throughout the day.

"Conferences like this cultivate an atmosphere where we can quiet ourselves and reflect on the deeper questions we have in life such as: Why am I here? Who and what is God? How can I find happiness? We discover these answers most fully as God reveals Himself to us."

Gallagher says your faith will be strengthened by opening yourself up to the love of God and allowing Him an opportunity to speak to you.

For more information, visit sfcatholic.org/youth. Contact your parish to register.

Christmas at the Cathedral

Celebrate the birth of our Lord with the concert of the year, Christmas at the Cathedral. Tickets are now available for six performances spanning four days from Dec. 19-22 at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph.

Music director/conductor Dan Goeller says this year's theme, "Light of the World," lets audiences rediscover the Christmas story through the Gospel of John, who writes his Gospel using light and dark imagery.

"The music focuses on this theme of Christ's incarnation bringing light into our darkened world," Goeller says.

Traditional carols will be mingled with new songs such as Lauran Daigle's "Light of the World" and BarlowGirl's "Hallelujah, Light Has Come." Both renowned tenor Scott Piper and celebrated soprano Jackie Stressman return to round out the performances accompanied by the Christmas at the Cathedral Orchestra and Choir.

The concert is sponsored each year by the Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota. President Mark Conzemius says you should expect to be inspired and uplifted by the message and celebration of the incarnation.

"There is nothing like celebrat-



Photo by Kevin Fitzgibbons

ing Christmas in the Cathedral. The space and architecture of the Cathedral at Christmas, under the Nativity scene, it is beautiful. The acoustics are also amazing with the professional orchestra and 60-member choir," says Conzemius.

"In addition to bringing the community together to celebrate this special time of year, Christmas at the Cathedral supports the poor and vulnerable in our midst through endowments for the maintenance of the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House as well as the ongoing care of the Cathedral of St. Joseph, one of the region's most significant civic and sacred landmarks," Conzemius adds.

For more information and to get tickets, visit ccfesd.org/events.

"EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW"

A reflection on discipleship in light of the Road to Emmaus
Discover Jesus and the plans he has for you...

Men's Retreat (non-silent)
Oct. 25, 26 & 27 2019
at the Broom Tree Retreat Center

Directed by Joe Rutten
Director of the Benedictine Leadership Institute

for more information and Registration:
holyspiritmen.org/mens-retreat or call 605-360-2750



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Parish Dinners/Socials

Oct. 6: Sioux Falls Serra Club hosting Dad's Belgian Waffle Breakfast from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Christ the King School gym, 26th and Lake, Sioux Falls. Cost is a free will donation. Money raised will go toward seminarian education.

Oct. 6: St. Wenceslaus Parish, Tabor, bazaar. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Enjoy chicken, dumplings, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, vegetable and fruit salad, kolache, rolls and assorted pies.

Oct. 6: St. James Parish, Chamberlain, fall festival. Lunch and silent auction immediately following 10:30 a.m. Mass. Enjoy ham, cheesy hashbrowns, green beans, salads and pie.

Oct. 6: St. Stephen Parish, Bridgewater, annual whole hog sausage supper. Serving family style from 3-7 p.m. Whole hog sausage sales begins at 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 13: St. Boniface Parish, Idylwilde (rural Freeman), annual fall supper from 4-7 p.m. Serving broasted chicken and pork chops, cheesy potatoes, vegetable, salads, rolls, dessert and beverage. Cost is ages 13 to adult \$11, ages 5-12 \$7 and 4 and under are free.

Oct. 13: St. Agnes, Sigel, annual Soup Kitchen to celebrate the harvest. Serving from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Sigel Church Hall in rural Utica. Menu includes taverns, hot dogs, chili dogs, chicken noodle soup, chili, potato soup, homemade desserts and beverages. Enjoy a raffle, bake walk and country store.

Oct. 20: St. Henry Parish, Henry, annual hunter's dinner. Serving from 3:30-7 p.m. All you can eat fried chicken, potatoes and gravy, corn, and dessert. Served family style.

Oct. 20: Christ the King Parish, Sioux Falls, annual roast beef dinner. Serving from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$6 for 5-12 and under 5 are free. Or pay \$35 per family.

Oct. 20: St. John the Baptist Parish, Lesterville, Soup Kitchen. Serving from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Lesterville Community Hall. Chili, chicken noodle and vegetable soups, chicken salad, taverns, hot dogs and potato salad. Raffle, bingo and fish pond. Freewill offering.

Oct. 27: St. Mary's Altar Society of Assumption, Dante, soup dinner. Serving soups, sandwiches, kolache and desserts from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Fun and games.

Oct. 27: St. Mary Parish, Salem, fall bazaar at the Salem Armory 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Serving food from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. including hot chicken or cheesy ham sandwiches, baked beans, salad, pie and drink. Bingo, silent auction, paddle wheel and kid's games and raffles for all ages.

Parish Dinners/Socials

Oct. 27: St. George Parish, Hartford, annual fall dinner. Serving 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings, country store and raffle.

Oct. 27: St. Mary Parish, Aberdeen, fall festival and dinner at Roncalli High School. Roast beef dinner 3:30-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$8 for ages 6-12, and 5 and under are free. Take out meals available. Fun at the midway from 2-7:30 p.m. with concessions, silent auction, country store, games, bingo, inflatables, cake walk and face painting. More info, visit facebook.com/stmarysaberdeen.

Nov. 3: St. Thomas More, Brookings, annual turkey dinner. Serving at three separate times: 10:45 and 11:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Come at the time best for you. Enjoy turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn and roll along with a variety of pies.

Nov. 3: St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Armour, annual fall supper. Serving from 4-7 p.m. Enjoy roast beef, turkey, potatoes and gravy, dressing, green beans, salad, desserts and beverages. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 6-12, 5 and under are free. Call (605) 680-3932 to order dinners to go between 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Recitation of the rosary planned

Friday, Oct. 4 - The rosary is recited for the faithful departed on the first Friday of the month at 10 a.m. in St. Michael Cemetery in Sioux Falls.

Blessing of Animals at the Mustard Seed

Friday Oct. 4 - To celebrate the Feast of St. Francis, bring your pets for the annual blessing of animals from 5-6 p.m. at the Mustard Seed Catholic Store, 3709 S Grange Ave, Sioux Falls.

Recitation of the rosary planned in the

Mother's Garden - The Office of the Marian Apostolate will sponsor the recitation of the rosary in the Mother's Garden near the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Sioux Falls at 6 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 7, Tuesday, Oct. 22, and Monday, Oct. 28.

Men's conference planned in Brookings

Oct. 11-12 - Mission Blueprint presents "Mission I.D. Freedom" Catholic Men's Conference at St. Thomas More Parish, Brookings. Keynote speakers include Dr. Margaret Schlientz, founder of The Pope Leo XIII Institute for the education of priests in exorcism and deliverance; Sean Dalton with the Augustine Institute implementing Formed; and Glen Gauer, founder of Mission Blueprint in the Sioux Falls Diocese. For tickets, go to www.mission-blueprint.org or find Mission Blueprint on Facebook.

St. Lambert School craft fair set for

Saturday Oct. 19 - Open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free admission. Visit over 100 booths of quality crafts and food concessions. 1000 S Bahnson Ave, Sioux Falls.

Public recitation of the rosary in Mitchell Saturday Oct. 12 - Annual public recitation of the rosary across from Corn Palace at noon.

Search for Christian Maturity retreat set

Oct. 25-27 - Located at Holy Spirit Church, Sioux Falls, the retreat is a student led program featuring talks, skits, music, opportunities for Confession, and celebration of Mass. All high school and college age students and adults are welcome. For more information, contact 605-371-1478, SiouxFallsSearch@gmail.com or www.siouxfallssearch.org.

Confraternity of the Holy Rosary seeks

new members - All are welcome to enroll in the Confraternity of the Holy Rosary, offering many spiritual benefits to its members. For information, contact Jim Miles, 605 759-2654 (dustoff1525@yahoo.com).

Catholic Family Services

Oct. 3/Children's Grief Program directed by Mary Weber and Christy Vander Woude begins Thursday from 5:30-7 p.m. at Catholic Family Services, 523 N Duluth Ave, Sioux Falls. This four-week program is designed for children according to their age and specific loss. To register or for more information contact Catholic Family Services 605-988-3775.

Oct. 11-13/Grieving the loss of a loved one weekend non-denominational retreat for adults who have lost a loved one and are trying to understand and reconcile their grief. Starts Friday at 7 p.m. and concludes Sunday at noon at Broom Tree Retreat Center, Irene, SD. Directed by Dr. Marcie Moran and guests. Call 988-3775 or 1-800-700-7867 or email cfs@sfcatholic.org for more information or to register. Registrations limited.

Presentation Sisters

Oct. 5/The Presentation Sisters invite you to attend our Women on the Prairie Conference entitled, "Balan-ZING: The Art of Being Present in Every Moment." The conference, held at Presentation Convent in Aberdeen from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. is being presented by Gaye Hanson, a motivational and inspirational speaker. Her presentation is filled with hilarity and heart while learning solid, practical steps to cope with stressful situations, difficult people and life's challenges with grace and resilience. Cost for the event is \$15. For more information or to register, contact Barb at 605-229-8391 or bgrosz@presentationisters.org.



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Christmas at the Cathedral

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