



THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

*One Faith,
One Family*

Give back more
than you've
been given

MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

PAGE 6

Authentic generosity
means giving from
your poverty

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

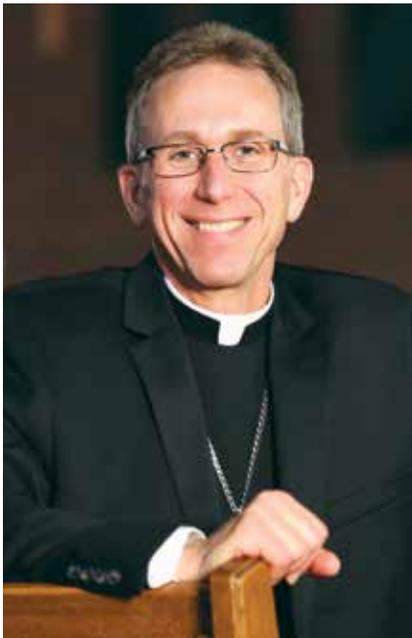
PAGE 14

Give young people
opportunities to
serve their parishes

NEXT GENERATION CATHOLIC

PAGE 16

Lent is a time of new beginnings



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

Lent is a time to look deeply at the reality of our interior lives and ask God to help us to love as he does. In his love for the Father, the Holy Spirit and us, Jesus laid down his life to pay the ransom for our sins. His unconditional love, which sought our good and not his own, can be ours *if* we are open to receiving the grace (spiritual power) God offers us and *if* we generously respond by seeking God's good and the good of others. My hope is this year's Lent will be a season of new beginnings in the reality of the love of God.

God's unconditional love for us is a reality. The Current Reality Report, shared in September with parishioners throughout the diocese as part of the *Set Ablaze* planning initiative, shows us that reality. And this edition of The Bishop's Bulletin shares both a new and a continuing response to that reality: the map of the newly designed pastorates and the continuing diocesan support that helps laity, staff, clergy and parishes envision new and enhanced ways of living as dynamic lifelong Catholic missionary disciples. I invite you to grow with others in our diocese this Lent through an unconditional love of God and others.

It's important that we properly understand this divine love. God's unconditional love, more properly called charity (*caritas* in Latin), consists of seeking the good of the other; as St. Thomas Aquinas put it, "To love is to will the good of another." Our *Set Ablaze* planning initiative is intended to seek the good of priests and those they serve by having fewer priests tied up with administrative duties so they can share their spiritual, pastoral, educational and liturgical giftedness more fully.

Having fewer parishes with only one priest helps reduce isolation, enhances opportunities to realign priests to their primary gifts, and invites laity to heightened collaborative roles of responsibility in the church under the leadership of their pastor.

I hope additional creative sharing of ministries and staff in neighboring parishes will help reduce unnecessary duplication, capitalize on consecrated and laity giftedness and promote a deepening sense in the diocese that we all are called to live as *one, holy, catholic and apostolic church* in union with the Catholic Church throughout the world. As many parishes throughout the diocese know, finding enough qualified staff is a challenge. Increased collaboration and an active pursuit of laity as co-responsible for the work of the Church, I hope, will assist us in accomplishing the goals of *Set Ablaze*.

Will this be a challenge? Yes. Will it work perfectly? No. But after consultation with laity, consecrated and clergy across the diocese and prayerfully considering how we might best serve each other, *Set Ablaze* is designed to invite the Holy Spirit to renew Catholic life in eastern South Dakota.

This month's feature story is intended to reveal more clearly how some of our Catholic Family Sharing Appeal dollars are used to support diocesan staff, who, in turn, serve clergy, staff, parishioners, parishes and other Catholic institutions and ministries across the diocese.

Since Lent is a time of enhanced prayer, fasting, almsgiving and works of charity, it is my hope and prayer that *Set Ablaze* helps us all grow in unconditional love of God and others based on what we reasonably can do. As my mother has often reminded us five boys at home when we were focused on ourselves instead of our brothers: remember, charity begins at home!

It is my hope and prayer that as so many parishioners, staff and clergy serve others outside of their own families and parishes, we as Catholics across the diocese will keep charity at the core of our focus as we venture to re-envision and implement new ways of helping each other on the way to heaven.

BISHOP'S SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY

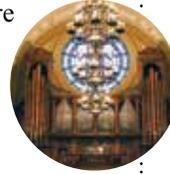
- 1 9:00 Catholic Schools Week Mass, Aberdeen Catholic Schools, Roncalli High School, Aberdeen
- 3 10:00 Catholic Schools Week Mass, Bishop O’Gorman Catholic Schools, Elmen Center, Sioux Falls
- 4 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 5 1:30 Regional Confirmation, St. Mary, Sioux Falls and St. Lambert, Sioux Falls, at Cathedral of Saint Joseph
- 9 11:00 Priest Council meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center
- 11 10:00 Regional Confirmation, St. Katharine Drexel, Sioux Falls, St. Nicholas, Tea, St. Christina, Parker, at St. Katharine Drexel
- 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 12 1:30 Regional Confirmation, Christ the King, Sioux Falls, St. Mary, Dell Rapids, St. Dominic, Canton, St. Magdalen, Lennox, at Cathedral of Saint Joseph
- 15 6:30 Regional Confirmation, Risen Savior, Brandon, St. Joseph the Workman, Huntimer, St. Rose of Lima, Garretson, at Risen Savior
- 18 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 23 2:30 St. Paul Seminary and St. John Vianney College Seminary Board of Trustees meeting
- 5:30 Operation Andrew Dinner, St. Thomas More Newman Center, USD
- 25 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 26 1:30 Rite of Election for RCIA Candidates, Cathedral of Saint Joseph
- 27 - Institute for Priestly Formation
March 7 Bishop’s Retreat

*Broadcast on Keloland TV or livestream via sfcatholic.org

Inside February 2023

6 MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

Give back more than you have been given

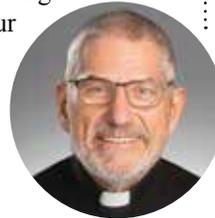


8 FEATURE

One Faith
One Family: Ease administrative burdens to set the mission ablaze

14 LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Authentic generosity means giving from your poverty



15 DOES THE CHURCH HAVE AN ANSWER?

Why do the seven sacraments matter?

16 NEXT GENERATION CATHOLIC

Give young people opportunities to serve their parishes

21 THE LOCAL CHURCH

Lenten regulations produce spiritual fruits

23 DIOCESAN EVENTS

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN



February 2023

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SET ABLAZE: A S

The final version of the pastorate arrangements for the diocese under the *Set Ablaze* planning initiative were released by Bishop DeGrood at the end of January. Each new pastorate is listed below with its parishes and other key information. These pastorates will go into effect beginning July 1, 2023. Please visit www.setablazesf.org to see the full map and details, and review the Frequently Asked Questions page to answer any questions you may have. Please continue to pray the *Set Ablaze* prayer also found on the website.

PASTORATES

PASTORATE 1: St. Anthony (Selby), St. Augustine (Bowdle), Holy Cross (Ipswich), St. Joseph (Eureka), St. Joseph (Mobridge), St. Michael (Herreid), Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Leola), St. Thomas (Roscoe)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 867

PASTORATE 2: Sacred Heart (Gettysburg), St. Anthony of Padua (Hoven), St. Pius X (Onida), SS. Peter and Paul (Pierre)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 1374

PASTORATE 3: St. Ann (Miller), St. Liborius (Polo), St. Mary (Highmore), St. Thomas (Faulkton), All Saints (Mellette), St. Bernard (Redfield)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 960

PASTORATE 4: Sacred Heart (Aberdeen), Sacred Heart (Westport), St. Thomas Aquinas Newman Center (Aberdeen), St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (Groton), St. Mary (Aberdeen), St. Joseph (Turton)

- Priests serving pastorate ministries: 3
- Priests serving specialized and parish ministries: 1
- Total priests: 4
- Households: 2443

PASTORATE 5: Christ the King (Webster), Immaculate Conception (Waubay), Sacred Heart (Eden), St. Kateri Tekakwitha (Sisseton), St. Peter (Sisseton), St. John the Baptist (Rosholt), St. John DeBritto (Britton), St. Joseph (Grenville)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 1,065

PASTORATE 6: Blessed Sacrament (Florence), Immaculate Conception (Watertown), Holy Rosary (Kranzburg), Holy Name (Watertown), St. Henry (Henry), St. Mary (Bryant), St. Michael (Clark)

- Total priests: 3
- Households: 2,178

PASTORATE 7: Annunciation (Reville), St. Charles (Big Stone City), St. Lawrence (Milbank), St. Mary (Clear Lake)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 839

PASTORATE 8: Our Lady of Good Counsel (Elkton), Pius XII Newman Center (Brookings), St. Francis de Sales (Estelline), St. John (Arlington), St. Paul (White), St. Thomas More (Brookings)

- Priests serving pastorate ministries: 2
- Priests serving specialized and parish ministries: 1
- Total priests: 3
- Households: 1,456

PASTORATE 9: St. Mary (Dell Rapids), St. Peter (Colman), St. Joseph the Workman (Huntimer), SS. Simon and Jude (Flandreau)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 1,078

PASTORATE 10: St. Agatha (Howard), St. Thomas (Madison), St. William (Ramona)

- Total priests: 1
- Households: 617

PASTORATE 11: Holy Trinity (Huron), St. Charles (Artesian), St. Joseph (Wessington Springs), St. Thomas (De Smet), St. Wilfrid (Woonsocket)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 1074

PASTORATE 12: St. James (Chamberlain), St. John (Plankinton), St. Margaret (Kimball), St. Mary (Stickney), St. Peter (White Lake)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 726

PASTORATE 13: Assumption (Dante), Sacred Heart (Parkston), St. Ann (Geddes), St. John (Wagner), St. Mark (Lake Andes), St. Paul (Armour), St. Paul (Marty), St. Peter (Platte), SS Peter and Paul (Dimock)

- Total priests: 3
- Households: 1,272

PASTORATE 14: Sacred Heart (Yankton), St. Benedict (Yankton), St. Boniface (Idylwilde), St. George (Scotland), St. John (Lesterville), St. Leo (Tyndall), St. Vincent (Springfield), St. Wenceslaus (Tabor)

- Total priests: 4
- Households: 2,637

PASTORATE 15: Good Shepherd (Centerville), St. Agnes (Vermillion), St. Joseph (Elk Point), St. Patrick (Wakonda), St. Peter (Jefferson), St. Teresa of Avila (Beresford), St. Teresa of Calcutta (Dakota Dunes), St. Thomas More Newman Center (Vermillion)

- Priests serving pastorate ministries: 3
- Priests serving specialized and parish ministries: 1
- Total priests: 4
- Households: 1,226

PASTORATE 16: Epiphany (Epiphany), St. Ann (Humboldt), St. Martin (Emery), St. Mary (Salem), St. Mary of Mercy (Alexandria), St. Stephen (Bridgewater), St. Patrick (Montrose)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 922

STRUCTURAL PLAN

PASTORATES – SIOUX FALLS VICINITY

PASTORATE 17: St. Christina (Parker), St. Katharine Drexel (Sioux Falls), St. Magdalen (Lennox), St. Nicholas (Tea)

- Total priests: 3
- Households: 1,565

PASTORATE 18: Risen Savior (Brandon), St. Rose of Lima (Garretson)

- Priests serving pastorate ministries: 1
- Priests serving specialized and parish ministries: 1
- Total priests: 2
- Households: 744

PASTORATE 19: St. George (Hartford), St. Michael (Sioux Falls)

- Priests serving pastorate ministries: 2
- Priests serving specialized and parish ministries: 1
- Total priests: 3
- Households: 2,189

PASTORATE 20: Christ the King (Sioux Falls), St. John Paul II (Harrisburg), St. Mary (Sioux Falls)

- Total priests: 3
- Households: 2,206

PASTORATE 21: Cathedral of Saint Joseph (Sioux Falls)

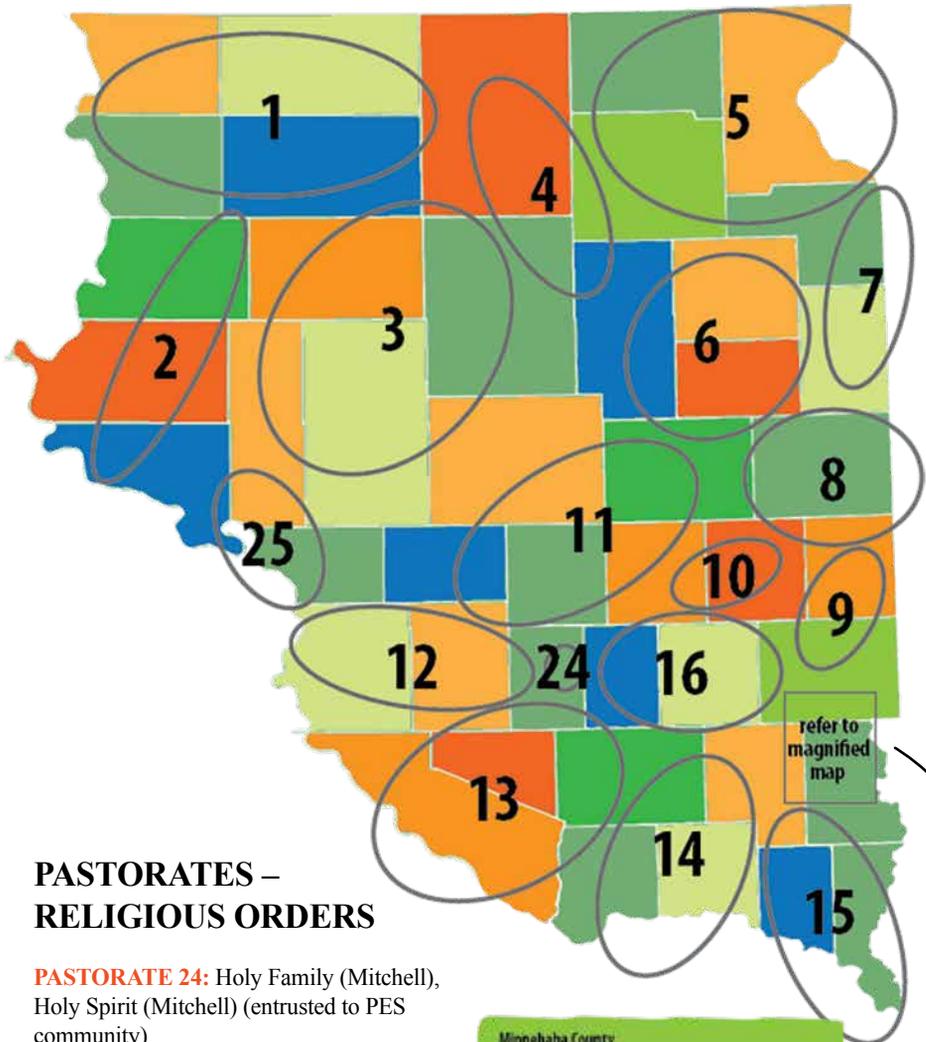
- Priests serving pastorate ministries: 1
- Priests serving specialized and parish ministries: 1
- Total priests: 2
- Households: 960

PASTORATE 22: Our Lady of Guadalupe (Sioux Falls), St. Lambert (Sioux Falls), St. Therese (Sioux Falls)

- Priests serving pastorate ministries: 2
- Priests serving specialized and parish ministries: 1
- Total priests: 3
- Households: 1,921

PASTORATE 23: Holy Spirit (Sioux Falls), St. Dominic (Canton)

- Priests serving pastorate ministries: 2
- Priests serving specialized and parish ministries: 1
- Total priests: 3
- Households: 1,963



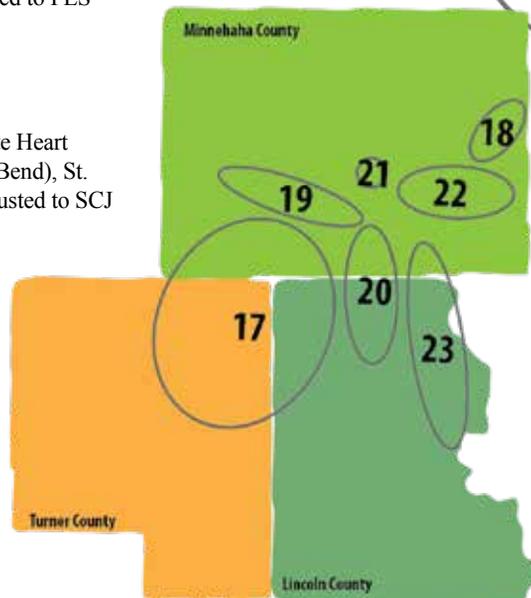
PASTORATES – RELIGIOUS ORDERS

PASTORATE 24: Holy Family (Mitchell), Holy Spirit (Mitchell) (entrusted to PES community)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 1,566

PASTORATE 25: Immaculate Heart (Stephan), St. Catherine (Big Bend), St. Joseph (Fort Thompson) (entrusted to SCJ community)

- Total priests: 2
- Households: 320





Give back more than you've been given

The organ at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph

By Matt Crosby

Our earthly lives are a gift from God. He created each of us with unique gifts and a definite purpose in his creation. We were made for this time, for this very moment, with certain gifts and talents, to be participants and missionary disciples in God's salvific history.

In the parable of the talents from the Gospel of Matthew, we find a clear indication that God is pleased when we take what we have been given and cultivate it for his glory. Just as the good servants produced more from what they had been given, we recognize that our jobs, careers and hobbies, no matter how small and mundane, become an opportunity to give back to God more than we have been given.

Recognizing your talent

Jared Ostermann recognized his gift for music early in life with help from the people around him. Originally from Lawrence, Kansas, he began studying the piano around age 10. His family converted to Catholicism when Jared was 14 years old. In terms of worship music, this meant a switch from praise bands to choirs and organs.

"That was one of the striking things to me about the shift in churches," he said. "One of the first things I noticed was the solemnity of the liturgy and the beauty of the choir and organ music at our parish."

Around the age of 16, Jared became more involved in the parish choirs and music ministry.

"My first organ teacher was the music director at my home parish," he said. "She encouraged me to start studying organ and to think about church music as a profession. I was also encouraged by the pastor of that parish."

Jared later attended summer music camps and devoted more time to studying the organ during his high school years. And for a time, Jared was majoring in music and pre-med in college, a plan he called the "scenic route" to medical school.

"Actually, music is one of the majors that places best for medical school admissions, so it seemed like a logical path," he said.

Later, while studying abroad in Vienna during his junior year of college, he

realized he needed to make a choice about his future career. He visited with his local parish priest who was on sabbatical in Rome, prayed about it, and sensed that he should shift to a full-time pursuit of sacred and church music.

Jared went on to earn a bachelor's degree in music from the University of Kansas, a master's degree in sacred music from the University of Notre Dame, and a doctorate of musical arts from the University of Kansas.

Cultivating your talent

Jared currently serves as director of music at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Sioux Falls. At the cathedral, he oversees all liturgical music and conducts two adult choirs, with repertoire ranging from Gregorian chant to choral-orchestral major works. He also plays the pipe organ at most of the Masses at the cathedral and serves as artistic director of the Cathedral Sacred Arts Series.

Putting forth musical skills for the glory of God may be more natural for organists, Jared said, compared to musicians who sing or play instruments more suited to a performance career.

"By its nature, the organ, being found in churches, kind of leads you to be closely connected with church music from day one," he said. "It's not so much a shift in focus that has to take place mid-career, it's more just a natural progression of things that you will end up working in a church."

Go deeper

How have you cultivated your talents in your job or hobbies? In what ways are you able to be a missionary disciple and share the fruits of your success with those around you?

The parable of the talents, described in Matthew 25:14-30, describes the life of a church musician well, Jared said.

"There is the duty to be a good steward of your talents, but the parable also makes clear that investing is risky, and a little frightening," he said. "Church music is not a 'normal' profession with a clear career track, so it takes a certain amount of faith to pursue it and trust that the investment will bear fruit."

Jared said a church music director is a jack of all trades, and musical skill, while certainly foundational, is only one part of the picture.

"I am in charge of managing 50 to 60 volunteer and professional musicians in the course of the year, which brings a lot of communication, planning and logistics," he said. "Another key skill is public speaking, whether in front of concert audiences or choirs, and that has been maybe the most difficult to develop, with my more introverted personality."

His role also includes working with guest musicians and planning weddings and funerals.

"The day-to-day is quite varied," he said. "It can be a lot of emailing, a lot of practice work, rehearsal time, setting up a concert, or hosting somebody."

He has also received correspondence from people in Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand and various countries in Europe, a result of their access to the Sunday TV Mass that originates from the Cathedral of Saint Joseph.

"They'll watch the TV Mass and like what they hear, and they'll email or call me looking for what resources we're using here," he said.

Giving back in accordance with what you've been given

Years after praying for career guidance, he still notices a strong connection between music and medicine.

"Music is also a highly technical, demanding pursuit, especially when you have to perform difficult pieces publicly under intense pressure," he said. "I can see a similarity there with the high stakes and pressure of medicine. Music is not life and death, but it sure feels like it is when you are in front of a crowd!"

Music is also a very competitive, egocentric discipline, and one aspect of the parable that speaks to Jared is the fact that each servant is given a different amount of talents.

Jared challenges, "Can you be content as a musician to invest your two talents, knowing that you will never be the 'star' performer who was given 10?"

Taking the talent God has given you and cultivating it to the fullest doesn't necessarily mean you'll be a star performer or the best at what you do. God asks you to give back in accordance with what you've been given, and this means being content with doing your best but knowing that you might not be the best in what you do.

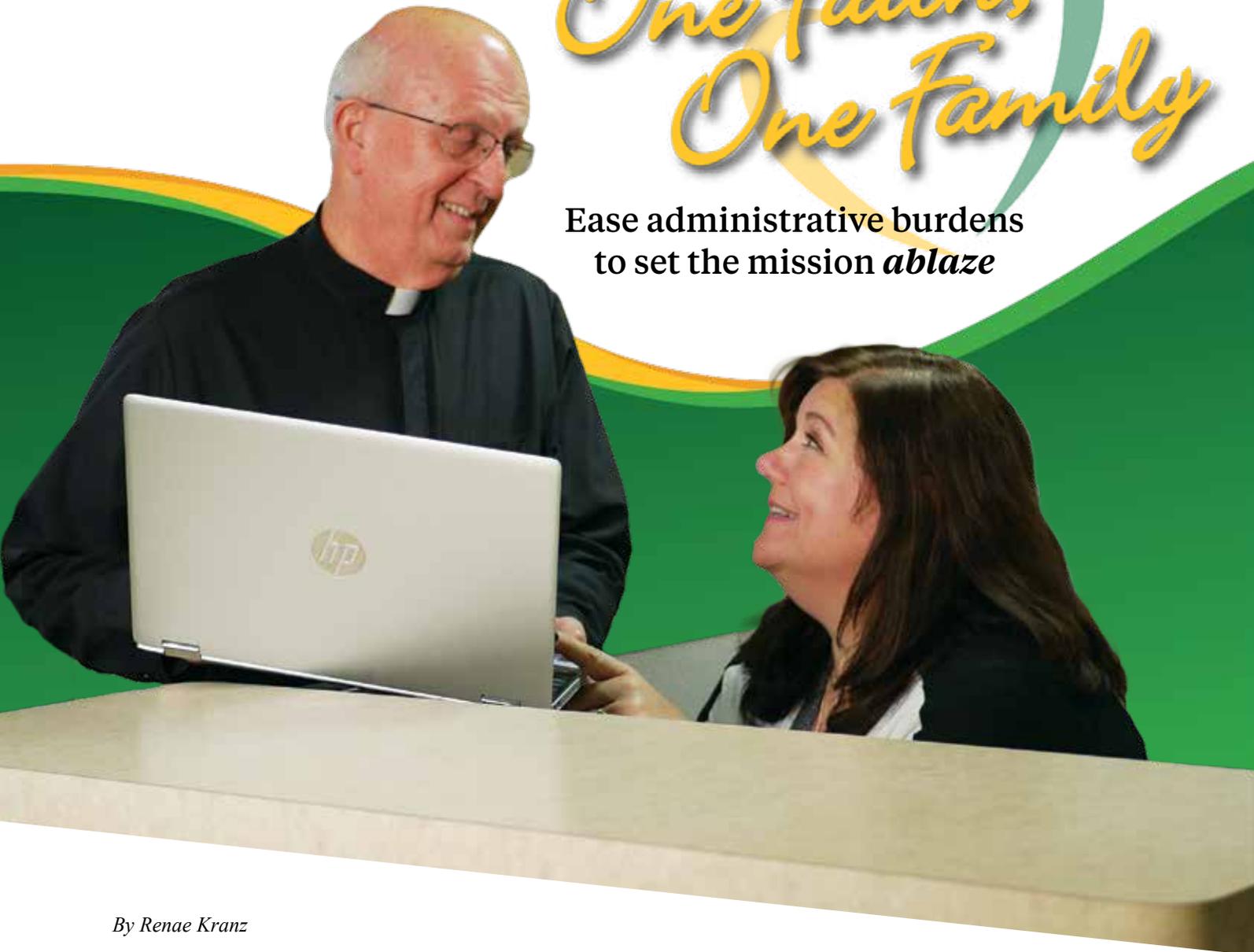
In the same way, not all of us have been given the same talents. Recognizing what you've been given and being grateful for the chance to cultivate it, despite not having other talents or opportunities, is a deeper call to participate in God's plan for you.

Don't miss out

Too often, our jobs, careers and even hobbies are far removed from our relationship with God. Yet, these things can consume a significant part of our time here on earth. When we fail to recognize them as opportunities to cultivate our talents and give back to God, we miss out on an important lesson Christ taught us. We also miss out on the opportunity to be missionary disciples by sharing the fruits of our jobs and hobbies with those around us.

One Faith, One Family

Ease administrative burdens
to set the mission *ablaze*



By Renae Kranz

Parishes, Catholic schools and other Catholic entities in our diocese have a secret weapon tucked in their back pockets. (Well, if they had back pockets, that's where they would keep it.)

What is this secret weapon?

It's the many Catholic professionals at the diocesan Chancery Office working to assist them in any way they can, and their service to parishes, schools and other Catholic entities is supported by the Catholic Family Sharing Appeal (CFSA).

Chancery offices such as Human Resources (HR), Information Technology (IT) and the Finance Office have offered critical support over the years at no cost for parishes, schools and other entities (such as the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House), making it possible for them to keep their mission front and center.

Not only do Chancery offices help with administrative needs, but the Discipleship and Evangelization Office (D&E) specifically supports parishes in their efforts at developing lifelong Catholic missionary disciples to go out and build up Christ's Church on earth. A new initiative D&E began last year is called the School of Missionary Discipleship, and it's already helping regular Catholics grow closer to Christ and giving them the tools they need to become the disciples God created them to be.

With changes coming to our diocese through the Set Ablaze planning initiative, the support of the Chancery Office will become even more critical. Let's take a look at the work of these diocesan offices, supported by your generous gifts to the Catholic Family Sharing Appeal, to understand their impact on our parishes and our mission in the diocese.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The HR department assists parishes, schools and priests with issues such as personnel issues, insurance benefits, job postings and advertising, job descriptions, benefits billing, and help with regulations and reporting. It's a job that department Director Twila Roman knows is not possible for parishes to do on their own.

"I really get excited when I have a priest call me and say, 'Twila, I need to fill this position, but I don't even know where to start.' I tell them, 'Father, you called the right place,'" Twila said. "When it's not something you do every day, you don't realize the ins and outs. It's a great way for us here at the Chancery Office to be able to assist those parishes across the diocese."

Twila and her team have created various templates for job descriptions, timesheet tracking and even parish handbooks so parishes and other Catholic entities don't have to recreate the wheel. All they have to do is reach out to the HR office and ask for what they need.

"I'm always so excited when a parish will say, 'Oh my gosh, this was so easy! The fact that all we had to do was edit these few sections, and we know from a legal standpoint we have the right things involved.' That's just so helpful," Twila said.

Lisa Elsinger, the business manager for St. Thomas More Parish in Brookings, has experienced first hand how the HR team helps parishes. When she runs up against something she hasn't dealt with before, she knows she can count on their help. She described a particular time several years ago when a parish employee had a medical issue.

"The insurance claims and everything got really complicated, and they were right there to answer questions," Lisa said. "They worked directly with the employee to solve all of the questions they had. And it was a real lifesaver for us to be able to trust them to help the employee get through that process."

The Bishop Dudley Hospitality House (BDHH) turns to the HR office for help with many things, but most often needs help with hiring. With about 30 employees and significant turnover due to the difficult work, they couldn't survive without their help.

Executive director of BDHH, Madeline Shields, says they need a lot of people to help them complete their mission of helping the most vulnerable in our community. Without the help of the HR office at the Chancery, it would be difficult to find employees and get them ready to work.

"They work collaboratively to get all the paperwork done, get people onboarded and get them into Paycom. It is a fabulous collaboration and one that we would be in dire straits without," Madeline said.

Without the assistance of the diocesan HR office, both St. Thomas More and BDHH would have to hire their own HR staff. However, more staff means fewer financial resources to put toward the mission and more time having to fund-raise. That is something Twila doesn't want to see any Catholic entity in the diocese have to do.

"I want them out there with their people. I want them to be able to evangelize face-to-face in their parish and do that so effectively where they're not worrying about these administrative things that we can help with," Twila said.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The IT world can be intimidating to those who don't live in it. The director of the IT Office, Dawn Wolf, and her team know this well. They assist parishes, priests, schools and other groups with new computer set-up, hardware, software, network upgrades, phone systems and much more. And they do it with great love and patience.

"I always joke if it has a battery or plugs into the wall, it's considered technology and we will help them with that," Dawn said. "Adam Staebell in our office is an amazing hardware technician and can fix almost anything. If you need data or a report created, John Woodraska is amazing at all things data. And they do it all with a heart for the mission."

Father Chuck Cimpl spent much of his time as a pastor in large parishes with good technology and people to help him when problems arose. When he retired from active ministry last summer, other retired priests told him what a big help the IT team was to them. Father Cimpl knew a call to Dawn and her team had to be one of the first things he did when moving into his new home. Dawn helped him purchase the computer, laptop and printer he needed, and Adam made a house call to hook everything up.



Top left: Walt Rueschhoff; Middle: Madeline Shields;
Top right: Father John Rutten; Bottom right: Lisa Elsinger



Left: Father Patrick Grode; Right: Scott Johnson

“When Adam came over to my place, he was so patient with me, and what was really helpful to me was staying connected with the diocese,”

Father Cimpl said. “I know I couldn’t have done it myself. They’re so kind about everything. And what’s neat about it is that CFSA supports not only retired priests directly, but also the IT department that helps us.”

Father Patrick Grode makes good use of the talents of the IT team. As pastor at the Pius XII Newman Center at SDSU in Brookings, technology takes on a whole new sense of importance, and Father Grode emphasizes the critical nature of having good wifi and technology at the Catholic home-away-from-home for many college students.

“We need to make this a place where students can come in and study and feel welcome, and part of what they need, because learning is more and more interactive and computer-based and web-based, is to have good wifi so that they can connect to what they need to get their classes completed,” Father Grode said.

Without that reliable connection and help on the other end of the phone when things go wrong, it would be difficult for Father Grode to get students into the Newman Center. And if they don’t come, they likely won’t keep an even more important connection, the one they have with God.

The fact that the Newman Center doesn’t have to pay for the IT help they get from the diocese means they can keep their shoestring budget from breaking. That’s a big deal for a ministry working hard to keep young people interested in their faith.

“The support we get from the Chancery is invaluable,” Father Grode said. “As a Newman Center, we’re a major beneficiary of CFSA dollars, not just indirectly through help from the IT department, but also CFSA funds are a chunk of our budget every year. So as we continue to have outreach for college students and make the sacraments available on college campuses, CFSA is a big part of how that happens.”

On top of all the help the IT team offers, they are also able to offer discounts on needed technology through collective buying power. But in the end, it’s really all about serving others.

“We like to think of ourselves as servants for the servants of God,” Dawn said, “helping them advance the mission of the Church.”

FINANCE OFFICE

Another office in the Chancery that helps advance the mission through their assistance to parishes is the Finance Office. They offer accounting and payroll services, and they provide end-of-year tax services, parish reviews of internal controls and best practices, and a helpline for all parishes to call with questions. If that wasn’t enough, they also provide services for other Catholic entities, including The Lourdes Center and Bishop Dudley Hospitality House.

“We’re able to relieve the priests of some of the administrative duties of the parish and provide controls to help ensure that proper accounting is performed,” Scott Johnson, CFO for the Chancery, said. “That helps our priests accomplish the mission of their parishes.”

St. Mary Parish in Salem depends on the Finance Office for bookkeeping and payroll assistance for the parish and school. Their help allows Administrative Assistant Barb Huiten more time to do the many other items on her list each day. When she first started her job at the parish, she relied on them to help her get up and running.

“They’re very supportive and so kind and gracious,” Barb said. “No question ever made you feel dumb or anything. They were just so helpful.”

At the St. Thomas More Newman Center at USD in Vermillion, Father John Rutten loves his financial statements, but he doesn’t want to do the work to create them. And as was experienced by Father Grode in Brookings, Father Rutten’s tight budget makes assistance from the Chancery that much more important. All he needs in his office is an administrative assistant who can do invoicing and organizing, and the Finance Office is so flexible in their service, they can do the rest.

“The flexibility has been a huge blessing that has always ensured no matter who I’m working with on staff, I am able to get what I need in the financial documents to interpret what I need to, and to continue the mission of whatever assignment that I’ve been in,” Father Rutten said.

Father Rutten says the Finance Office helps them be good financial stewards of the gifts parishioners and donors give them, and he doesn’t have to think about those pieces of the puzzle or worry about them.

“It helps the Newman Center accomplish its mission because it allows us to do the thing we really love to do and are called to do, which is bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the students at the University of South Dakota,” Father Rutten said. “It just is a huge blessing to know that the financial support that is coming to us in the Newman Center is well stewarded.”

SCHOOL OF MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

A key initiative of the diocese is building up missionary disciples, and to further that initiative, the D&E Office, led by Father Scott Traynor, launched the School of Missionary Discipleship last year. More than 280 lay people, priests and deacons took part in the first year, which focused on prayer.

“Discipleship is a matter of coming to know Jesus through repeated encounters with him, falling in love with him, and desiring to follow wherever he leads me in my life,” Father Traynor said. “So if we want people to become disciples, we have to learn how to pray in a relational way. We have to become familiar with Scripture, the word of God, which is living and effective, and has the power to transform each one of our lives.”

The School is spread over three years and focuses on three pillars: one year on prayer, the second on Scripture and the third on the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Father Traynor says these three pillars are “a great gift to move the vision of the diocese forward. And it’s all made possible by the generous support of the Catholic Family Sharing Appeal.”

Walt Rueschhoff has experienced a reversion of faith over the last five years and decided to make the School part of his formation as a disciple so he could learn more and defend his Catholic faith. Now in the prayer year of the School, he is making regular time for prayer each day and learning different methods of prayer to use during a variety of life’s challenges.

“Just like working out, if you do the same exercise over and over again, your body gets used to it, and you need to change it up a little bit,” Walt said. “It gives you different ways to look at prayer.”

Walt has found one of his struggles with prayer is to stay focused. He would find himself talking *about* God instead of talking *to* God. The School has helped him find ways to redirect himself when he got distracted. And his prayer life has become more fruitful because of the things he’s learning.

“Prayer is an invitation for us to acknowledge God is working with us and to call on him and his graces to help us through what he’s calling us to do,” Walt said. “And you start to see those prayers get answered and you see how powerful those things are.”

Barb Rezac enrolled in the School to grow more in her faith so she could be more effective with the group of youth she mentors and in her position as vice president for mission and advancement at Mount Marty University. She was surprised about the School’s opportunities to grow not only intellectually, but also spiritually.

“One thing that I really learned and was enforced with me through this program was the value of silence,” Barb said, “and to really spend time in silence every day, to be able to listen to what God is asking of us and what God is trying to share with us, and how to learn and understand how God loves us.”

The School has helped her grow closer to God and understand her faith more. She’s now ready to be the missionary disciple God created her, and all of us, to be.

“I just receive a lot of joy in my spiritual journey, and I just want to share that with everyone,” Barb said. “This program gives me the tools, it gave me the opportunities, it gave me the knowledge to be able to share that with others and to help them in their spiritual growth.”

Father Traynor has seen tremendous results so far from those participating in the School. They’re experiencing Mass in a new way, praying more frequently and deeply, and connecting the Bible in fresh ways. The program couldn’t happen without the generosity of those who give to CFSA.

“I’m really grateful that through the generosity of the Catholic Family Sharing Appeal, we have the resources to support the mission of parishes in offering the systematic and in-depth formation in prayer and allowing Scripture to come alive and really understanding what the Church believes and why, and why it makes a difference,” Father Traynor said.

YOUR GIFTS MATTER

The gifts you give through the Catholic Family Sharing Appeal support the work and mission of our parishes, schools and Catholic entities by supporting the “servants of the servants” as Dawn Wolf called them. They not only impact others, but in a real way, they feel the impact on their own faith.

“The work that we do with the parishes and pastors has affected my faith in such a deep way. It has shown me that it takes all of us and all kinds to help the kingdom of God be furthered,” Twila said.

We are all asked to support each other in one faith and as one family. As we move ahead with a new structure for the diocese, let us remember that we only have each other to turn to and that our support of the Catholic Family Sharing Appeal has deep and lasting effects.



Left: Dawn Wolf; Middle: Twila Roman; Right: Father Scott Traynor

MINISTRIES AND SERVICES SUPPORTED BY CFSA

Ministries

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

Evangelization/discipleship

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

The Lourdes Center

- Grief groups and other loss support programs
- Family and individual counseling
- Vocations support
- Ongoing programs related to healing
- Single day programs in parishes around the diocese

Communications

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

Catholic education/Newman Centers

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

Specialized ministry services

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

Outreach ministries

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

As well as coordinated support for these separate works:

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

Government relations

- South Dakota Catholic Conference

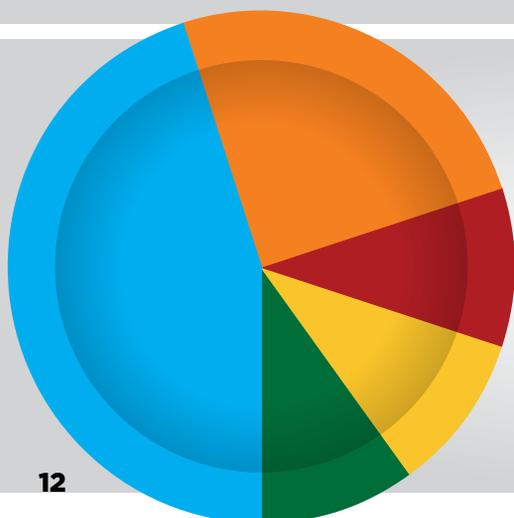
Seminary Education

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

Parish and Clergy Support

- Technology and ParishSOFT support
- Personnel resources through benefits administration, human resource consulting, safe environment programs and more
- Financial administrative services, including parish accounting and census and risk management
- The bishop’s ministry, including parish and school visits and Confirmations
- Cemeteries
- Priest continuing education and sabbaticals
- Priest/religious retirement

Support for pastoral and finance councils, other parish structural needs



Ministries 45%

Parish and Pastoral Svcs 25%

Seminarian Education 10%

Pastoral Center and Facilities 10%

Support Services 10%

Support for Diocesan Budget

CFSA	60%
Endowments	14%
Administrative & Service Income	11%
Donations and other	15%

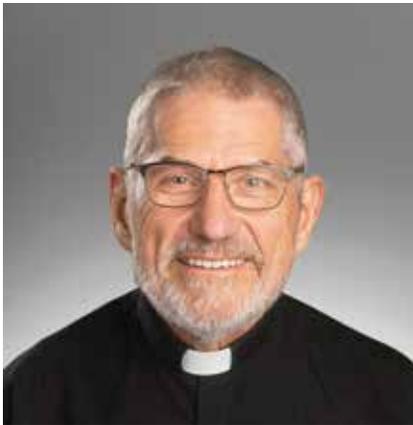
2023 Parish Share

CITY	PARISH	PLEDGE
Aberdeen	Sacred Heart Parish	\$121,000
Aberdeen - SM	St. Mary Parish	\$103,400
Alexandria	St. Mary of Mercy Parish	\$24,000
Arlington	St. John Parish	\$9,900
Armour	St. Paul the Apostle Parish	\$25,200
Artesian	St. Charles Parish	\$2,900
Beresford	St. Teresa of Avila Parish	\$21,600
Big Bend	St. Catherine Parish	\$250
Big Stone City	St. Charles Parish	\$13,600
Bowdle	St. Augustine Parish	\$12,000
Brandon	Risen Savior Parish	\$113,500
Bridgewater	St. Stephen Parish	\$9,500
Britton	St. John de Britto Parish	\$18,100
Brookings	St. Thomas More Parish	\$144,000
Bryant	St. Mary Parish	\$7,400
Canton	St. Dominic Parish	\$24,600
Centerville	Good Shepherd Parish	\$10,800
Chamberlain	St. James Parish	\$36,700
Clark	St. Michael Parish	\$16,300
Clear Lake	St. Mary	\$22,500
Colman	St. Peter Parish	\$17,000
Dakota Dunes	St. Teresa of Calcutta	\$31,300
Dante	Assumption Parish	\$16,300
Dell Rapids	St. Mary Parish	\$77,500
DeSmet	St. Thomas Aquinas Parish	\$19,200
Dimock	SS Peter & Paul Parish	\$17,600
Eden	Sacred Heart Parish	\$19,100
Elk Point	St. Joseph Parish	\$31,600
Elkton	Our Lady of Good Counsel	\$22,400
Emery	St. Martin Parish	\$16,200
Epiphany	Parish of the Epiphany	\$12,300
Estelline	St. Francis de Sales Parish	\$16,900
Eureka	St. Joseph Parish	\$10,200
Faulkton	St. Thomas the Apostle Parish	\$32,900
Flandreau	SS Simon & Jude Parish	\$30,000
Florence	Blessed Sacrament Parish	\$13,100
Fort Thompson	St. Joseph Parish	\$800
Garretson	St. Rose of Lima Parish	\$23,300
Geddes	St. Ann Parish	\$11,400
Gettysburg	Sacred Heart Parish	\$27,500
Grenville	St. Joseph Parish	\$11,500
Groton	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	\$22,000
Harrisburg	St. John Paul II	\$50,000
Hartford	St. George Parish	\$58,000
Henry	St. Henry Parish	\$8,600
Herreid	St. Michael Parish	\$14,000
Highmore	St. Mary Parish	\$13,700
Hoven	St. Anthony Parish	\$32,000
Howard	St. Agatha Parish	\$20,000
Humboldt	St. Ann Parish	\$25,000
Huntimer	St. Joseph the Workman Parish	\$26,000
Huron	Holy Trinity	\$63,400
Idylwilde	St. Boniface Parish	\$13,200
Ipswich	Holy Cross Parish	\$36,300
Jefferson	St. Peter Parish	\$33,000
Kimball	St. Margaret Parish	\$40,600
Kranzburg	Holy Rosary Parish	\$31,200
Lake Andes	St. Mark Parish	\$11,300
Lennox	St. Magdalen Parish	\$17,000

CITY	PARISH	PLEDGE
Leola	Our Lady of Perpetual Help	\$9,100
Lesterville	St. John the Baptist Parish	\$10,400
Madison	St. Thomas Aquinas Parish	\$59,000
Marty	St. Paul Parish	\$2,200
Mellette	All Saints Parish	\$17,000
Milbank	St. Lawrence Parish	\$58,800
Miller	St. Ann Parish	\$31,000
Mitchell - HF	Holy Family Parish	\$125,800
Mitchell - HS	Holy Spirit Parish	\$50,000
Mobridge	St. Joseph Parish	\$40,000
Montrose	St. Patrick Parish	\$30,000
Onida	St. Pius X Parish	\$13,300
Parker	St. Christina Parish	\$25,200
Parkston	Sacred Heart Parish	\$45,300
Pierre	SS Peter & Paul Parish	\$90,100
Plankinton	St. John Parish	\$19,400
Platte	St. Peter Parish	\$17,000
Polo	St. Liborius Parish	\$10,900
Ramona	St. William Parish	\$9,000
Redfield	St. Bernard Parish	\$43,200
Reville	Annunciation Parish	\$6,000
Roscoe	St. Thomas Parish	\$14,000
Rosholt	St. John the Baptist Parish	\$14,300
Salem	St. Mary Parish	\$35,000
Scotland	St. George Parish	\$13,200
Selby	St. Anthony Parish	\$10,400
Sioux Falls	Cathedral of St. Joseph	\$126,500
Sioux Falls	Holy Spirit Parish	\$275,100
Sioux Falls	St. Michael Parish	\$197,200
Sioux Falls	Christ the King Parish	\$95,300
Sioux Falls	St. Katharine Drexel	\$109,100
Sioux Falls	St. Lambert Parish	\$117,600
Sioux Falls	St. Mary Parish	\$167,400
Sioux Falls	St. Therese Parish	\$64,200
Sioux Falls - OLG	Our Lady of Guadalupe	\$9,900
Sisseton	St. Peter Parish	\$31,600
Sisseton - SKT	St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish	\$1,600
Springfield	St. Vincent Parish	\$7,800
Stephan	Immaculate Conception Parish	\$1,300
Stickney	St. Mary Parish	\$7,900
Tabor	St. Wenceslaus Parish	\$21,300
Tea	St. Nicholas Parish	\$46,000
Turton	St. Joseph Parish	\$15,500
Tyndall	St. Leo Parish	\$32,500
Vermillion	St. Agnes Parish	\$50,600
Wagner	St. John the Baptist Parish	\$31,200
Wakonda	St. Patrick Parish	\$11,800
Watertown	Holy Name Parish	\$105,900
Watertown	Immaculate Conception Parish	\$108,000
Waubay	Immaculate Conception Parish	\$9,300
Webster	Christ the King Parish	\$33,800
Wessington Springs	St. Joseph Parish	\$13,100
Westport	Sacred Heart Parish	\$8,400
White	St. Paul Parish	\$7,400
White Lake	St. Peter Parish	\$19,900
Woonsocket	St. Wilfrid Churuch	\$15,200
Yankton	Sacred Heart Parish	\$119,600
Yankton	St. Benedict Parish	\$101,000

Authentic generosity

means giving from your poverty



By Father James Zimmer

“How much can/should I give to CFSA?” you ask. I’d suggest a bigger question: “What does God want to do for me, through my CFSA pledge?”

That’s a radical question.

It puts the focus on God’s will, not mine. It exposes my poverty, and the answer will change me.

“He sat down opposite the treasury and observed how the crowd put money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents. Calling his disciples to himself, he said to them, ‘Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood’” (Mk 12:41-44).

Are you willing to face this possibility: “contributing from my poverty?”

How can I, rich as I am, “contribute from my poverty”? What good will that do with so many needs?

As a priest at Sanford Hospital for a number of years, I constantly discovered I am poorer than I think. In front of debilitating, discouraging, often incurable disease and injury, I did not have what people needed. I was as poor as they. I needed Christ as desperately as they. When I pretended I had what they needed, it fooled no one. They were not moved, nor was I.

When I remembered Christ was there, and begged him to give himself again as he had so many times before, then I was moved, as were those to whom Christ sent me. I found myself more caring, more loving—authentically generous. It was as if I became more myself, and gave more of myself. They, for their part, were strengthened and comforted.

I had given from my poverty, which allowed Christ to give his riches.

We, the Church, are like that. We are the poor widow. Each of us has nothing apart from God, no matter how wealthy some of us may be. The more we live from that poverty—we cannot live without Christ—the freer Christ is to give himself. And the more we’ll notice it, and want to follow him.

“This poor widow has put in more ...” We’ll become those who really make a difference. In the words of Monsignor Luigi Giussani, founder of the Catholic movement Communion and Liberation, “The real protagonist of history is the beggar: Christ who begs for the heart of man, and man who begs for the heart of Christ.”

The Catholic Family Sharing Appeal (CFSA) is one of the ways Christ begs for my heart. Aware of my poverty, of how much God has given me (much of it directly through CFSA), I beg, “Lord, what do you want to do for me, this time?”

My pledge is itself a gift of God for me. I need it. I am richer because of it. If it’s not for me, it’s not for those to whom I give it. Am I willing to ask, “Lord, what do you want to do for me, through CFSA?”



Why do the seven sacraments matter?

Q

I've found your series on the Mass to be very helpful. Would you be able to explain the idea of the sacraments in general a little bit more for me?

A

For those of us who are cradle Catholics, the sacraments are simply part of our lives. As such, however, it's easy for them to remain unexamined, with the consequence that we fail to realize the depth and significance of what they are and what they mean for our relationship with God.

So, what *is* a sacrament? And why do they matter?

Here's the definition from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): "The sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us" (CCC 1131). That's a mouthful, so let's unpack it a bit, beginning with the concept of a sign.

In short, a sign points to something more than itself. Take a wedding band as an example: what are the words the bride and groom speak to each other when they place the ring on the other's finger? "Take this ring as a sign of my love and fidelity. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." That ring signifies the love and fidelity a spouse has for the other. The ring itself is just a round piece of metal. But we give it a greater significance, a greater meaning by making it a sign of something else.

Next, a sacrament is an efficacious sign *of grace*. What is grace? The answer actually comes near the end of the catechism's definition: grace is divine life!

There are different types of grace, but when it comes to the sacraments, the grace given to the recipient is the very life of God. When we receive the sacraments, we are receiving God himself! This is true in a unique way in Holy Communion, but it's true in all seven sacraments: God is at work on us and within us, giving himself to us in the sacraments.

Sacraments, in other words, are moments, events, "places," if you will, in which and by which we encounter the living God, the creator of the universe who became one of us, died on the cross and rose again. In each and every sacrament, we are "touched" by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, embraced by the Holy Trinity, brought into ever deeper communion with God. Here we see why the sacraments are so much more than rites of passage or religious rituals, as meaningful as they are in that way: they are also the



ways God himself has given us to be with him, to receive him, to share life with him, to be his beloved sons and daughters.

Next, the catechism tells us the sacraments are *efficacious* signs of grace. What does "efficacious" mean in this context? It means the sacraments work, that they actually convey or give the grace they signify. Again, there's a lot packed into that word. Efficacious is significant because it means the sacraments work in and of themselves, not because of the worthiness or holiness of the person who gives them. As long as the minister of the sacrament intends to do what the Church intends, the grace of that sacrament is given. It doesn't matter how holy or unholy the minister is; if it's done according to the intention of the Church, it's efficacious, it works, meaning that the grace of God, the life of God, is given.

We'll briefly finish the rest of the definition: the sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, which are *instituted by Christ* and entrusted to the Church. All seven of the sacraments are divine in origin, not human; they are given to us by Jesus himself. The Church did not invent the sacraments. Just as with all her teachings, the Church received the sacraments from Christ. They are the way Jesus desires to share himself with us, the way we receive the divine life of God, according to God's own plan.

And he entrusted them *to the Church*. The Church is both the minister of the sacraments and their recipient. As the catechism puts it, the sacraments are by the Church as well as for her, and therefore the Church has the responsibility of ensuring they are always celebrated according to the plan of the one who instituted them: Jesus. As with all of Jesus' teachings, the Church is the guardian of the sacraments, ensuring—by the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit—they are celebrated properly.

So, the sacraments are important, not merely as rites of passage, but even more, as the means by which we enter into fellowship—communion with God himself.

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

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

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





Give young people opportunities to serve their parishes

By Heidi Comes

When Jesus commissioned the Apostles to go out and begin their ministry in Matthew, Chapter 10, he gave them many instructions. These instructions boil down to some pretty simple points: freely you have received, freely give.

That message wasn't meant for the Twelve only. As followers of Christ, we also are to give freely.

MORE THAN MONEY

All too often the word "give" has a monetary value placed upon it. We hear the commissioning to give, and we immediately think about how much it will cost us financially. But just as in Jesus' initial instructions to the Apostles, giving because we have received has very little to do with how much money we have.

Every single person has been given invaluable gifts from their creator: characteristics, talents and treasures that are as unique to the individual as our fingerprints are from one another. How we use these gifts is truly our gift back to him. Our acceptance and use of these gifts show our gratitude.

It can be daunting to begin the process of serving others in an intentional way, yet at the same time, we often overcomplicate the process of giving.

FOUND IN FAMILY LIFE

One of the best things we can do as parents and leaders in the Church is to model service for our young people and provide them with opportunities to serve. The family is the perfect place to learn the art of service and giving to others. Through home life, toddlers and young children learn to put others first in their

relationships with siblings. Any observance of toddlers will remind us that it isn't a natural human instinct to share. We hold tightly to what we perceive as ours, both in our earliest years and throughout our whole lives. Teaching our children that everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God goes a long way in helping them develop a lifelong understanding of an attitude of gratitude.

Most parents do this type of modeling without ever knowing they're doing it. As spouses, we serve one another and put the needs of our families first. How we live has far more impact than what we say to our children, even if this may not always seem to be noticed by our children. Seeing us lovingly and willingly meet the needs of those within our homes becomes the building blocks of all other giving experiences in life. The family is the primary shaper of the human person, as was God's plan.

BEYOND THE COLLECTION PLATE

Within our church ministries, we can also provide excellent opportunities for young people to become lifelong givers. The offering plates passed during the collection of gifts at Mass are one of many opportunities for giving. While financial support to our parish is a big part of being a faithful Catholic, it is not the only place we are called to give. In fact, tossing money into a collection often allows us to let ourselves "off the hook," so to speak. Giving goes way beyond our pocketbooks.

True giving and service require us to go outside our comfort zone and step into that often uncomfortable, but always rewarding space of authentic generosity.

Incorporating service opportunities as part of religious education is a great way for young people to experience the rewards of giving. Making these opportunities voluntary may seem like it would discourage involvement, but, in my experience, this allows the fundamental drive to serve, established by God, to flourish within the youth.

In my time as a youth leader, I have been amazed by the number of students who make the service nights a priority. The projects aren't ridding the world of hunger, pollution and war, but we are doing what we can to brighten the small space we call home, one activity at a time. From helping clean highway ditches to making homemade cards for individuals in local communal living facilities, the youth are learning to put others first and our hope is that they develop a lifelong desire to give.

Our culture expects and demands very little from teenagers. Our Church should do the opposite. Youth ministry should incorporate service, not to check a box for a Confirmation requirement or because it is needed to meet the needs of one organization or another, but because it teaches young people that they have infinite value to their community and parish.

All too often, teenagers are perceived as self-centered and self-absorbed individuals better left to muddle their way into adulthood when they can finally shake that off and become contributing members of society. As a church family, we must recognize and celebrate the gift young people are in the life of the parish.

GIVING IS ITS OWN REWARD

Over the years, I have yet to see a teenager engaged in an act of service who looks miserable. There is something beautiful about setting ourselves aside to serve others. We are transformed through giving. We are more fully alive and more aware of the gifts we have been given when we freely give.

The culture wants us to believe that it is grand acts that will change the world. St. Teresa of Calcutta, in her countercultural approach to life, said, "Do small things with great love." We change our world one smile, one hug, one dish washed, and one diaper changed at a time.

We have all heard it said that giving is its own reward. And while we certainly shouldn't be doing good just so we *feel* good, it cannot be ignored that this is true. My own children have often left a service night and been unable to contain their joy. There is something truly special about being the hands and feet of Jesus to help another. This isn't an accident or a funny coincidence. God created us for more. He feels our love for him when we show love for one another.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

In whatever way we can begin modeling this as adults, we must. The world isn't going to do it for us. Our children are being bombarded with how their very existence is to blame for the destruction of the planet, how their use of the resources we've been blessed with is selfish, and that humans are the source of every evil. Our message to them must be different.

We must remind them regularly that they are fearfully and wonderfully made, and God's purpose in placing them here, at this moment in time, was to better the world, not worsen it. Along with that comes the responsibility to leave the world a better place than we found it.

There is no better way to do this than to give young people the chance to serve and give of themselves in our parishes. And always remind them that the gift isn't measured by how many people see it or how many people show up. Mother Teresa encouraged us, "Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and start with the person nearest you."

A group of youth from St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Madison, makes hand-made cards for people supported at Valiant homes.



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

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

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

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



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

Presentation Sisters

God speaks in the
 silence of the heart.

Listening is the
 beginning of prayer.

Mother Teresa

©artwork by Kirsten Koza

To discover more about the Presentation Sisters visit: www.presentationisters.org

Facebook: [Presentation.Sisters.Aberdeen](https://www.facebook.com/Presentation.Sisters.Aberdeen)

We invite you to send your prayer requests to: wepray4u@presentationisters.org





BRANDON – Kevin and Edane Bowman celebrated their 30th anniversary on Jan. 16. They have 2 children and are members of Risen Savior Parish.



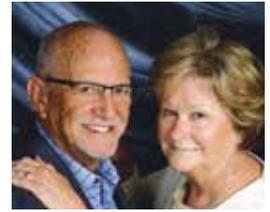
CHAMBERLAIN – Jason and Louise Clark will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Feb. 24. They have 5 children, 18 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. James Parish.



MITCHELL – Mike and Michelle Ommen celebrated their 50th anniversary on Jan. 20. They have 3 children, 8 grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



ROSHOLT – Francis and Karen Renelt celebrated their 50th anniversary on Jan. 27. They have 3 children, 9 grandchildren and are members of St. John the Baptist Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Tom and Cathy Whalen will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Feb. 3. They have 4 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Dale and Joan Eschenbaum will celebrate their 55th anniversary on Feb. 16. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Therese Parish.



YANKTON – John and Dauna Ogden will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Feb. 17. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.

ANNIVERSARY SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We accept anniversary submissions for the following anniversary years: 25, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 and 75. We include them in the issue of the month of the anniversary or the following month's issue. Submissions received for later issues will not be included.

Send a color photo, your anniversary information and a self-addressed, stamped envelope by Feb. 17 for inclusion in the April 2023 edition to:

The Bishop's Bulletin
523 N. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

or email to:
bwingen@sfcatholic.org.

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WHAT WE DO BEST.



* Knights of Columbus ranked #6 in the permanent life insurance category on Forbes 2022 America's Best Insurance Companies list. Forbes partnered with Statista to independently survey more than 16,000 customers who owned at least one insurance policy across 7 insurance product categories.



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Catholic Store

Hours:

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

Location:

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

605-271-4055



UPCOMING RETREATS

SILENT RETREATS

Men's Silent Retreats
 February 16-19
 March 16-19

Women's Silent Retreats
 February 2-5
 March 2-5
 April 20-23

DAY OF RECOLLECTION

February 14, 2023
 - directed by Father John Rutten

March 21, 2023

April 11, 2023

May 9, 2023

Power from on High
 - directed by Dr. Chris Burgwald

June 20, 2023

SPECIAL RETREATS

Healing Retreats
February 24-26
 -directed by Father Scott Traynor

Couples Retreat
April 14-16, 2023
 - directed by Chris and Germaine Burgwald with Father Scott Traynor

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

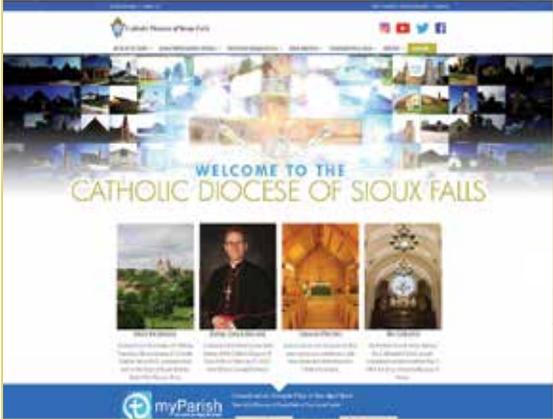
REGISTER FOR RETREATS ONLINE **broom-tree.org**

26th ANNUAL The Cathedral of Saint Joseph's **Christmas Thank You!**
 at the Cathedral

It was discovered that an incomplete list of Christmas at the Cathedral Patron Pew sponsors was included with the January "Thank You" ad. We apologize, deeply, and thank the following pew sponsors for their support.

PATRON PEW SPONSORS

Aaladin Industries, Inc	Harry & Connie Mansheim
Aspen Private Advisors	MDS Manufacturing
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Jim & Joan Lacey	Brad & Shelly Wieman
LaRock Family	Bruce Weller
Lloyd Companies	Whaley Trucking LLC,
Maguire Iron Inc and Maguire Tank Inc	Mark & Liz Whaley
Malloy Electric and Supply	Don & Barb Young



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- Blogs
- News
- The Bishop's Bulletin

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sfcatholic.org // @sfdiocese


 Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls

Lenten regulations produce **spiritual fruits**

THE LOCAL CHURCH

Ash Wednesday, falling on Feb. 22 this year, marks the beginning of the lenten season. The distinctly penitential and austere obligations that come with Lent can seem like drudgery at times, but our dispositions to such practices are often a reflection of our own spiritual health.

The Church, in her wisdom, knows the incredible fruits and merits God gives to a humble and penitential soul. She also knows that our fallen nature makes us unlikely to seek acts of penance. Because of this, she obliges us to follow certain penitential practices during Lent for our own good.

During Lent, the Christian faithful are obliged to do penance through prayer, fasting, abstinence and by performing works of piety and charity. Even outside of Lent, the bishops in the U.S. still exhort the faithful to observe all Fridays as days of penance in recognition of Friday as the day of our Lord's death and in preparation for the heavenly banquet at Sunday Mass.

ABSTINENCE

Everyone age 14 and older is to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. Meat has always been considered a food of banquets and celebrations. Additionally, for many centuries it was a luxury to have access to and consume meat. Since Fridays, particularly during Lent, observe the Passion and Death of our Lord, these are clearly days in which we should abstain from the food of banquets and celebrations.

In the Midwest, high-end seafood can often be a luxury and a significant expense, especially when consumed at restaurants. While consuming such food certainly observes the "letter

of the law" in regards to the obligation, in order to reap the most bountiful spiritual fruits, the faithful should ensure their intention is united to the "spirit" of such obligations.

FASTING

Fasting is an ancient practice whose importance can be seen time and again throughout the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. Everyone age 18 and up to their 59th birthday is obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

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

For Christians, the practice of fasting mirrors the 40 days Jesus fasted in the desert before he was tempted by the devil. Jesus' example shows us how denying the body of indulgence detaches us from worldly desires and elevates us in holiness so that we are more disposed to respond to God's grace to resist temptation and sin. The practice of fasting highlights the integral union of body and soul and how the actions of each one affect the health of the other.



In addition to growth in individual holiness, we can offer our fast up to God for various intentions. Consider offering your fast up for the conversion of another soul, for their perseverance during difficult times or temptations, or for their final perseverance at the end of their earthly lives. Offer it up for your parish priest, for their health, needs and strength. The list of possible intentions is endless. Don't miss the opportunity to unite something to your fast.

PENITENTIAL ACTS

It is popular for Catholics to "give something up" for Lent. This is not required by the Church, but it is often encouraged as a way to detach from the things of the world and focus our attention on God and heaven. This helps a soul prepare for Easter and grow in holiness at the same time.

We owe God everything and he owes us nothing. Yet, he has given us everything and we often give very little in return. Consider showing your deep love and trust for God by giving something up that you think will be very difficult. Resign yourself to him in complete trust and let him be your guide through the long journey of Lent. If you slip and give in during the journey, the only shame comes if you abandon your sacrifice completely as if it has lost all its merit. Turn again to him who never turns from you, and ask him to give you the resolve to rise once more and push on to that great and holy Easter day.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gift of Hope Concert set for 2023



The 23rd annual Gift of Hope Concert, presented by the Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota, is set for Saturday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. The concert will feature Ben Fuller, a nationally acclaimed contemporary Christian artist. It will be held at the Bishop O’Gorman Performing Arts Center in Sioux Falls.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Gift of Hope Fund, which provides support for programs offered through The Lourdes Center. These programs assist individuals experiencing grief or uncertainty, allowing them to flourish as human beings during such times.

About Ben Fuller

From Ben Fuller’s biography

Music has taken Ben Fuller’s life and made it into something he never would have dreamed. Ben grew up in southern Vermont on his family dairy farm working alongside his father. He’d pass the time by singing to old classic country tunes as he witnessed firsthand the hard work and dedication it took to run a farm. The songs never stopped, and somewhere between the farm and college, he picked up a guitar and never looked back.

Due to generations of hurt in his family, Ben struggled with certain aspects of growing up and turned to cocaine and

alcohol at a young age. In 2015, Ben got involved in a devastating drug-fueled relationship, which led him to understand better the other side of addiction. In addition, come 2017, he abruptly lost his best friend to a heroin overdose and his entire outlook on life shifted.

Motivated to change, he moved to Nashville to pursue a career as a country singer in late 2018. A family Ben was close with invited him to church one Sunday and as he walked the halls into the auditorium filled with 3,000 people, he knew one day he would sing “that kind of music” for the rest of his life. Falling face first into his new-found relationship with Jesus, he began writing with a burning desire to share what God did to turn his life around. Today, Ben lives completely sober, while sharing his story filled with hope, mercy and grace. By turning his testimony into songs, he has been rejuvenated with a new passion and mission—to share his story with the world and all who are ready to listen.

Secure your tickets

Tickets for this event sell fast. To purchase yours or for information about becoming a sponsor, visit ccfesd.org/events/gift-of-hope.



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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

JOIN US! RSVP TODAY!



SCHOOL TOURS & VISITS

O’Gorman High School and O’Gorman Junior High

Call to schedule a tour or a shadow day: **605-575-3358**.

Additional Junior High Campus Visit Dates: Monday, February 6 • Friday, March 17 • Friday, April 28

PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSES:

Holy Spirit Elementary

Thursday, Feb. 9 • 5-6:30PM

4309 S Bahnson Ave • 57103

Christ the King Elementary

Monday, Feb. 13 • 5-6:30PM

1801 S Lake Ave • 57105

St. Katharine Drexel Elementary

Thursday, Feb. 9 • 5-6:30PM

1800 S Katie Ave • 57106

St. Lambert Elementary

Monday, Feb. 13 • 5-6:30PM

1000 S Bahnson Ave • 57103

St. Mary Elementary

Thursday, Feb. 9 • 5-6:30PM

2000 S 4th Ave • 57105

St. Michael Elementary

Monday, Feb. 13 • 5-6:30PM

1610 S Marion Road • 57106

Please **RSVP** to attend an elementary school open house.

Go to www.ogknights.org/admissions/enroll/open-house or scan the QR code on your mobile device.

Recitation of the Rosary

Friday, Feb. 3 – 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.

Simply: A Women's Retreat at Sacred Heart Parish

Feb. 18 – Join us for a women's retreat at Sacred Heart Parish, Parkston, presented by Lisa Fahey. Are you searching for meaning in life? Life can be challenging. In this retreat Lisa uses Ecclesiastes as a guide to how one can live life to the fullest no matter what comes your way. To have a fulfilling life is to live simply. (Don't worry you won't have to give up your conveniences!) The day will start at 8:30 with Mass, followed by a breakfast of rolls and muffins and end with a salad luncheon. All are welcome! For more information, contact Jane Barz 605-940-4101 or cottonwoodfm@santel.net.

Fish Fry

March 3 – St. George Parish, Hartford, is hosting a fish fry on Friday, March 3 from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Parish Center located at 408 S. Western Ave. Free-will offering. Any questions, contact Carolyn at 528-6532 or 366-4600 or spiel@unitelsd.com.

Search for Christian Maturity Retreat

March 3-5 – Located at Holy Spirit Church in Sioux Falls. Registration is now open for the next retreat! Search is a student-led, Roman Catholic retreat. The weekend features talks, skits, music and opportunities to encounter Christ in the sacraments. All high school and college-age students and adults are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please contact us at 605-371-1478 or SiouxFallsSearch@gmail.com. Visit the Search website for more information and to register: www.siouxfallssearch.org.

Chili Feed and Silent Auction

March 25 - Join us for a chili feed and silent auction to support Boy Scout Troop #346 Saturday, March 25 from 5-7 p.m. at St. Michael School Gym (use door D) on 26th & Marion Rd, Sioux Falls. To-go boxes available after Mass. Funds support the Boy Scouts and their activities like high-adventure and summer camps.

Sacred Heart Monastery

Feb. 3 – Online *Lectio Divina* at 10 a.m., Fridays, Feb. 3, 10 and 17. Meet online for *Lectio Divina*, a time for praying with the Gospel of the following Sunday. To register any time, contact group leader, Sr. Penny Bingham, OSB, at pbingham@yanktonbenedictines.org or 605-668-6023. Include your email address.

Feb. 16 – Registration deadline for “Come to the Water” online lenten retreat. Prepare for Lent and refresh your spirit on Feb. 18, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Go to yanktonbenedictines.org/online-lenten-retreat for information on the topic, registration and costs.

Feb. 24 – Registration deadline for five-week lenten Scripture study. Sr. Mary Jo Polak will lead the Acts of the Apostles, part II on Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. starting March 1. To register or for more information, go to <https://yanktonbenedictines.org/retreat-center/scripture-study>.

March 3 – Registration deadline for four-week lenten Scripture study. Sr. Doris Oberembt will lead the Gospel of Mark, part II on Wednesdays from 9:30-11 a.m. starting March 8. To register or for more information, go to <https://yanktonbenedictines.org/retreat-center/scripture-study>.

Silent Personal Retreats – We are currently accepting fully vaccinated and boosted residential retreatants at the Peace Center for individual private or guided retreat time. You are welcome to contact us for reservations at 605-668-6292 or yanktonbenedictines.org/silent-personal-retreats.

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

The Lourdes Center

A God Who Knocks – The Lourdes Center will be presenting a six-week series exploring the impact of emotional wounds and opening the door to God's healing love. This series will be on Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. beginning Feb. 28 at The Lourdes Center, 523 N. Duluth Ave., Sioux Falls. Register for this series at www.thelourdescenter.com. Please call 605-988-3775 with any questions.

Held Grief Series – The Lourdes Center will offer this eight-week series beginning Feb. 7 from 6-8 p.m. The series blends education and faith surrounding the loss of a loved one through death. Each session will allow for small group discussion according to your particular loss (loss of a child, spouse, parent/sibling). Registration is required. Free-will donations accepted. Call The Lourdes Center at 605-988-3775 to register.

Camp Sydney – The Lourdes Center will be offering a grief camp for youth and their families at Broom Tree Retreat Center, from 6 p.m. on June 9 until 11 a.m. on June 11. This two-day camp will include fun activities, discussion and support. The grief camp is offered free of charge. Registration will begin Jan. 15. Call The Lourdes Center at 605-988-3775 for more information.

Mater Ecclesiae Monastery

Public Eucharistic Adoration: All are welcome for eucharistic adoration and prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the monastery chapel. Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.-6 p.m.

Daily Holy Mass: Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.

Prayer Requests: It is our pleasure to support you in prayer. Please contact us with your requests. Phone: 605-336-2374 Website: www.perpetualadorationsisters.org

Gift Shop: We invite you to visit our religious gift shop at the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery just behind the Cathedral of Saint Joseph. Monday-Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Is the Lord calling you to support our mission? Please visit our website, www.perpetualadorationsisters.org, for more information.



Order your tickets TODAY
CCFESD.ORG
(605) 989-3765



A charity event benefiting
The Lourdes Center
Gift of Hope Fund.

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 11TH
7:00PM
Bishop O'Gorman
Performing Arts Center
Sioux Falls, SD

PRESENTS
NATIONALLY ACCLAIMED
CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN ARTIST
BEN FULLER

PRESENTING SPONSORS



Presented By



THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN



Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls
523 N. Duluth Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714

HELD

Through Grief by Grace

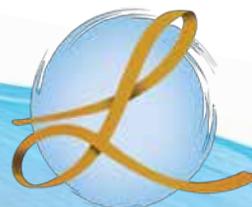
A new 8-week educational series for adults who are experiencing grief due to the loss of a loved one through death.

Begins Feb. 7th

From 6 pm - 8 pm

523 N. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD

Each week will include engaging presentations, prayer and small group discussion with others who have experienced a similar loss.



The Lourdes Center

REGISTER BY EMAIL | TLC@SFCATHOLIC.ORG