



# THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

## FROM REFUGEE TO REST

*How a  
Mary statue  
inspired  
missionary  
disciples*

Lay your doubts  
at the **foot of  
the cross**

**MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP**

PAGE 4

The Most  
Reverend **Thomas  
E. Gullickson**

**ANSWERING THE CALL**

PAGE 15

How to be  
**charitable and  
authentic** online

**NEXT GENERATION CATHOLIC**

PAGE 16

# Souls are saved when God dwells in us



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

*This month's column is from a homily given by Bishop DeGrood on May 23, 2022.*

**W**hat's coming to my heart is gratitude to those of you who dwell with God. The Father desires to dwell with us. What does it mean to dwell with us? It means that God wants to dwell within us, and we are so very privileged through our Baptism, through the sacraments of the Church, for God to literally dwell within us. It's called grace—the supernatural reality of God's own life.

And in a particular way, in the Holy Eucharist, we get to receive Jesus' real Body and Blood, his Real Presence in us. I give thanks for those of you who so beautifully live your faith and have been an inspiration to me.

We live in a troubled world today and many are trying to figure out how to make their way through it. And without God dwelling within us, there is not unity, whether it's on the international

or national level, in the Church, our families, our communities, even our own hearts. But when God dwells within our hearts, there's an interior joy and peace, and God unites us all together.

How blessed we are to be Catholic, which means to be one, holy, catholic and apostolic. It's the invitation and the challenge for all of us to let God dwell in us so that we live united as Catholics in the goodness of God himself.

But we live in a world today where some have chosen not to let God be the source and principle of their interior life. And whenever that happens to any of us, just like it happened in the lives of the apostles and in all of humanity ever since the fall of Adam and Eve, we tend to want to take into our own hands and want to define what we believe is right or wrong, or to be able to choose what we want to be right or wrong.

Jesus was so clear that we must remain in the Word. God has revealed himself in the Old Testament and the New Testament. Jesus came to teach us

how to live and how to love. And even before he left, he told his apostles, it is better that I go, but I will send the advocate to be with you always, and the advocate will teach you.

But in order to be taught and to let the word of God dwell within us, we must take time and prayer. We must internalize and we must allow what needs to surface within us that's resistant to God's word, that's resistant to his beautiful teachings, his commandments, so that we can be transformed and converted.

We know from the Apostles and disciples, who were sinners like us, that anyone who allows their heart to be transformed by grace finds what their hearts are made for. We are made for love. We are made to have God dwell within us, because it's God dwelling within us that enables us to experience the fullness of our potential.

What the world is in need of today is Catholics, leaders, governments and businesses who are going to allow the word of God to be alive within them. And it's in that unity of the spirit where the Holy Spirit moves and unites us to seek the common good, not what it is we want for ourselves. If we, as Catholics, are not deeply rooted in the word of God and follow the Church's teachings, we will make our own decisions and sometimes advocate for things that are not of God, like taking the life of innocent children.

The world is in need of godly men and women as laity, as consecrated men and women, as clergy, to not be afraid, but to draw closer to God, that the Holy Spirit can instruct us and teach us how to be leaders.

It's going to take many of us. God wants to raise up leaders. He wants to save souls, and souls are saved when God dwells in us. Let's pray for that grace and for the desire to respond to the call.



## BISHOP'S SCHEDULE

### MAY

- 6 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph\*
- 11 11:00 Priest Council meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center
- 13 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph\*
- 20 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph\*
- 7:00 Bishop O'Gorman High School Mass & Graduation, Sioux Falls Arena

### JUNE

- 3 8:00 Commissioning Mass of Lumen Christi Missionaries
- 11:30 Mass at House of Mary Shrine, Yankton
- 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph\*
- 4 2:00 Regional Confirmation, St. Lawrence, Milbank, Christ the King, Webster, Immaculate Conception, Waubay, at St. Lawrence, Milbank
- 5 Bishop's Charity Fishing Tournament, Big Stone City

\*Broadcast on Keloland TV or livestream via [sfcatholic.org](http://sfcatholic.org)

## Inside May 2023

### 4 MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

Lay your doubts at the foot of the cross

### 6 FEATURE

From refugee to rest: How a Mary statue inspired missionary disciples

### 10 LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Faith and courage are the foundation of renewal

### 12 DOES THE CHURCH HAVE AN ANSWER?

Is the Holy Spirit a force or a person?

### 15 ANSWERING THE CALL

Q&A with Archbishop Gullickson

### 23 DIOCESAN EVENTS



## Officials of the Diocese of Sioux Falls

Since publication of the April Bishop's Bulletin:

**Deacon Thomas Rausch**, after voluntarily seeking a dispensation from the sacred duties of ordination, was returned to the lay state by decree of the Holy See's Congregation for the Clergy. By that same decree, Thomas was released from all obligations of Holy Orders, including that of celibacy.

**Father Kevin Zilverberg** is released from full-time service as a member of the faculty at the Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity, is assigned to continue service as a part-time member of that same faculty, and is assigned as a full-time member of the faculty of the Pontifical University of Salamanca.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thad A. Pals  
Chancellor

## THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

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# LAY YOUR DOUBTS A

By Renae Kranz

**H**ave you ever doubted something was true or that it actually happened or could happen? Maybe you hadn't seen enough evidence to convince you, or the person making the claim wasn't as trustworthy as you'd hope.

Doubt can drive us to seek out the truth and stretch our beliefs. Or, it can haunt our thoughts and drive us away from the truth instead. Doubt is tricky.

Doubt is so tricky in fact, I need to clarify what I mean by doubt right from the beginning. I don't mean doubt as a willful *rejection* of belief but rather a questioning of a difficulty in belief. To simplify, think of doubt as we'll discuss here as questioning with the desire and openness to know the truth.

With that out of the way, let's look at the most famous of doubters.

St. Thomas the Apostle is best known for doubting the resurrection of Jesus. At the same time, he is also known for his great faith once he saw Jesus resurrected. Can we believe with less proof than Thomas had?

## WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT ST. THOMAS

We don't know a lot about Thomas. We might assume he was born in Galilee, and we know he was a Jew. Other than that, his life before his time with Jesus is all unknown. We don't even know how he came to follow Jesus, much less become one of the Twelve Apostles.

Thomas's first words in the Bible appear in the Gospel of John (Jn 11:16). Jesus tells the apostles he intends to travel to Judea to visit Mary and Martha after the death of their brother Lazarus. The Jews had recently tried to stone Jesus in the area he intended to travel through, so the apostles were understandably worried about the trip.

Thomas' courage is evident in this passage. Rather than stay behind, he says to the other apostles, "Let us also go to die with him." Regardless of his doubt after the Resurrection, he also had great courage, which would help him in his mission after Pentecost.

Thomas is heard from again just before the Last Supper. Jesus tells the apostles he will prepare a place for them: "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where [I] am going you know the way" (Jn 14:2-4).

Thomas then asks Jesus, “Lord, we do not know where you are going, how can we know the way?” (Jn 14:5). Thomas gets to the heart of it here on behalf of all of us. Wouldn’t you have been confused by Jesus’ words? He wants to understand, but like the other apostles, he just isn’t there yet. Sounds familiar, doesn’t it?

Thankfully, Jesus offers words to help Thomas and the other apostles close the gap. He gives them the core truth of our faith: “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (Jn 14:6).

## THOMAS DOUBTS BECAUSE HE DOES NOT SEE

We’re all familiar with Thomas because of his most famous encounter with Jesus after his resurrection. Because he wasn’t there the first time Jesus appeared to the other apostles, Thomas refused to believe what they claimed. He said, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe” (Jn 20:25).

He needed physical proof.

Many of us might be thinking right now, “I might have felt the same way.” And we certainly may have. It’s an extraordinary claim to say someone rose from the dead.

Thomas would get his proof. Eight days after his statement, he was with the other apostles in a room with locked doors. Jesus appeared to them and showed Thomas his wounds, asking him to see, touch and believe. Thomas fell to his knees saying, “My Lord and my God!” (Jn 20:28). It was an act of faith backed up by proof.

### GO DEEPER

Want to read more about the saints? Go to [sfcatholic.org/saints](http://sfcatholic.org/saints) or scan the QR code below.



Is it a bad thing that Thomas needed proof first? Not necessarily. The Lord knows we will have doubts and questions. Even St. Peter doubted!

In Matthew 14:22-33, Jesus walks on the sea toward the disciples in the boat being tossed by the waves. Once he calms their fear and shock at seeing him walk on water, Peter asks the Lord to order him to come out on

the water with him. Jesus beckons him and Peter gets out of the boat and begins walking on the sea, but fear and doubt overcome him quickly and he begins to sink.

The key to this passage is to notice what Peter did. He cried out to the Lord instead of trying to save himself: “Lord, save me!” Jesus reached out to him immediately and grabbed hold of him.

This is how we can best handle doubt in our own lives—by reaching out to Jesus. He wants us to come to him with our doubts and questions. He’s never angry or disappointed in us because we have them. He made us, he understands our weaknesses, and he is reaching out to us to resolve them.

All we have to do is reach out to him.

When you feel doubt creeping in, take it to prayer. Listen for the Lord to enlighten your thoughts. You may have to do some research or ask others for help as well. Just don’t let those doubts fester into something much worse. Use them to bring yourself closer to the Lord.

After Thomas’ act of faith, Jesus said to him: “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed” (Jn 20:29). Remember, the people Jesus is talking about here include you and me. Put your doubt at the foot of the cross and believe.

As a diocese undergoing many changes during the Set Ablaze initiative, we all will likely feel doubt about where we’re going and whether the things we’re doing will have the impact we hope for. Take those doubts also to Jesus and the cross. Don’t allow them to grow and taint your faith. Jesus, the great healer, can give the courage to believe and have hope as the Holy Spirit guides us on this new path. Trust in the Lord.

## THE MISSION AND DEATH OF THOMAS

We have few records (many of which are not very reliable) of exactly where Thomas went to spread the Gospel message. It is believed he went to India and spent much time there converting the people. He is still revered in India today.

According to Syrian Christian tradition, St. Thomas was martyred July 3, 72 A.D., at St. Thomas Mount in Chennai, India. His feast day is July 3 and he is the patron of the blind, architects, carpenters and masons, geometricians, theologians and India.



A woman with short blonde hair and glasses, wearing a red t-shirt and grey pants, stands next to a large, weathered stone statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The statue is in a prayerful pose with hands clasped. The background consists of horizontal wooden planks.

# FROM REFUGEE TO REST

*How a  
Mary statue  
inspired  
missionary  
disciples*

Cathy Wuebben  
next to the statue  
of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary before  
it was restored.



By Lois Heron

In Sacred Scripture, we have the account of the Lord calling Moses to be his servant to the captive Israelites in Exodus. Moses doubted, unsure of his abilities. “The Lord said to Moses, ‘What is in your hand?’ ‘A staff,’ he answered” (Ex 4:2). Moses offered it to the Lord, and then the Lord could use Moses’ willingness to be his man for that time in history to bring relief to the captive Israelites.

The Lord works in our lives when we offer up the gifts and abilities he blessed us with for his use. He just needs willing servants. The following story is about a few willing servants who responded to a need with what was “in their hands.” Isn’t that what it takes to be a missionary disciple?

## OUR LADY THE REFUGEE

Tony Kayser’s willingness to follow the Holy Spirit’s leadership in his vocation as a financial adviser has provided many moments when the Lord used what was in his hand to be his

missionary disciple. Cathy Wuebben had to make some financial decisions as she approached retirement, and, as her financial adviser, Tony was there to help. But the story actually begins years before this in a small cemetery in Iowa.

A statue of our Blessed Mother was the last of three statues left standing at the turn of the 20th century from a Calvary scene in the Holy Name Cemetery of Rock Rapids, Iowa. A request was placed in the town’s parish bulletin asking for someone to protect the statue from further erosion. A couple responded to the need and willingly stored the statue in their barn.

A long time passed, and when the time came that the elderly couple could no longer protect the 400-pound statue, Cathy offered to be its next protector. Cathy revered that particular image of our Blessed Mother because of the May crowning of Mary every year. The Catholic school students would walk to the cemetery and crown the statue with a garland assembled from the flowers they had gathered; that tradition left an impression on her.

She didn’t know what she would do with the statue, but she knew it would somehow survive to inspire another generation’s gratitude for Mary’s love for the Church.

The statue became a refugee of sorts during Cathy’s eight moves. She faithfully moved the figure of our Blessed Mother into new storage units, but the time came for Cathy to be free from the nearly \$80 a month she paid for the storage of the statue.

When Tony offered to help relieve Cathy’s financial burden by taking the statue, he became the next protector of the crumbling refugee. He asked the Holy Spirit to give him direction for finding a final resting place for the statue, but it needed restoration before Cathy and Tony’s desires could be accomplished.

Tony reached out to a friend, Sara Beaner who is a restoration artist, and asked if she was willing to take on the project. Sara’s desire to serve the Lord with what is in her hands—a few tools of the trade—expresses her great love for the Lord and the Church.



The statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary as it sits today at the Carmelite monastery in Alexandria. All photos courtesy of Tony Kayser.

## RESTORED IN FAITH

Sara, an unwanted child of a broken home, longed for stability and love. She found what she longed for in the Catholic Church through the influence of the life of St. John Paul II. A young man named Tim (now her husband) assisted her in her journey by taking her to RCIA and sponsoring her when she was confirmed 35 years ago. Sara readily asserts that the path to healing the brokenness of her life opened with her entrance to the Church.

Her restoration, in part, has been through the paintbrush in her hand. “Jesus repairs my soul as I repair the icons of our faith.”

The brokenness of the statue she received from Tony was yet another grace God gave to her. As is her habit, after she received the project, Sara took it before Jesus in adoration. She asked Jesus to guide her hands as she worked.

She stood in her studio one morning, contemplating what was before her, and she prayed, “Jesus, your Mother suffered with you, and she suffers with us. Please use my ability to restore this statue of her. May her image bring hope to the hopeless.”

She started praying the Rosary (she painted a large one on her wall to pray with while her hands tended to the work of restoration). Sara struggled because she did not know which Mary (of the many titles we use to refer to her) the statue represented. Our Lady of Hope? Our Lady of Sorrows? She wept as she prayed and worked, and peace finally came.

“I entrusted myself to Jesus’ love and mercy to guide my hands,” Sara said. It would take months before the image was complete.

Meanwhile, Tony began his search for a final place for the statue to stand. Tony grew up on a farm near Alexandria, South Dakota. Some of his brothers and sisters remained in the area, farming land nearby. The family supports the Carmelite Monastery of Our Mother of Mercy and St. Joseph with their care for the practical maintenance of the grounds and building. Tony supports the monastery in various ways and maintains a relationship with the sisters.

It occurred to him in prayer one day that perhaps the restored statue should go there. Tony’s a man of action; no grass grew under his feet as he pursued the last step of the journey for the refugee statue.

## REFUGEE NO LONGER

The cloistered sisters of the Carmelite Order follow St. Therese of Lisieux’s example to “pump the blood of the Lamb” to the Mystical Body of Christ in the Church through prayer and intercession, especially for priests. They offer themselves as conduits of healing for the outside world through perpetual adoration of Christ’s Body and Blood in the Blessed Sacrament.

The sister’s missionary discipleship is hidden yet vital to the health of the Church. They serve the Lord by living a life of sacrifices of penance for the Church. In reality, they do not have anything in their hands; they live a life of poverty, but because of their voluntary poverty and perpetual attention to Christ’s desire for his Church, they can pray without the distractions of life outside the monastery.

Mother Mary Baptist, the current prioress of the monastery, was already acquainted with the Kayser family’s

“sweet attention” to the monastery, so when Tony presented her with his desire, she said yes.

July 16, the feast of Our Lady of Carmel, is a day of celebration in the Carmelite orders. July 16, 2022, would be a particularly memorable celebration at Our Mother of Mercy and St. Joseph Monastery. It was a rainy day, but that didn’t hinder the long-awaited dedication of the restored image of Mary.

Tony and his brothers had carefully placed the 400-pound image in its final resting place—the refugee statue finally had a place of repose. She now stands in a prominent place within the monastery garden to remind all pilgrims that Mary is Our Mother of Mercy. She is Our Lady of Help. She is Our Lady of Sorrows. She is Our Lady of Refuge.

This story is more than how a financial adviser, a woman in need, and a gifted artist worked together to honor the memory of our Blessed Mother. And yes, it is even more than the Carmelite sisters’ life of penance and prayer for the Church. It’s a story about how we live day in and day out following the example of Mary’s life in loving Jesus Christ. It’s a story about how we become missionary disciples in our corners of the world to make that love visible by using what we hold in our hands.

## USE YOUR GIFTS

Friend, what is in your hand? Do you feel like you are on the backside of the desert, used up and incapable of being a Moses? Perhaps, you, like Mary, live a life of simple obedience to God, wondering how it can be that the Lord God would choose you to do anything.



Their responses to God's call are quite different but worth noting as we consider how we can be missionary disciples of Christ.

If you read a little further in Exodus 4, you discover that Moses continues to banter with the Lord about his abilities. The Lord finally responded to Moses about what we may need to hear, "The Lord said to him: Who gives one person speech? Who makes another mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go, I will assist you in speaking and teach you what you are to say" (Ex 4:11-12).

In chapter 1 of St. Luke's Gospel, the Lord sent the Archangel Gabriel as his messenger to the unassuming daughter of Anne and Joachim. "'Hail favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God' ... 'The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you ... for nothing will be impossible for God.' Mary said, 'Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word'" (Lk 1:28-30, 35, 37-38).

Friend, here's the truth about us: God created us in his image to reflect his image to others. The way we love, and the gifts and talents we are given, are how we reflect his image through us. All he needs is our "yes."

Let's recall the words of St. John Henry Newman as we consider what type of missionary disciple we will be for Jesus.

*"God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He*

*has not committed to another. I have my mission—I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. ...I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.*

*"He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work; I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep His commandments and serve Him in my calling.*

*"Therefore I will trust Him. Whatever, wherever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him; in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him; if I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. ... He does nothing in vain; ... He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends, He may throw me among strangers, He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide my future from me—still He knows what He is about."*

Sara Beaner and Tony Kayser stand next to the finished statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary during its dedication at the Carmelite monastery.





# Faith and courage are the foundation of renewal

By Father Andrew Dickinson

**E**ighty years ago this summer, on June 29, 1943, in the midst of World War II, Pope Pius XII signed an encyclical letter entitled *Mystici Corporis (On the Mystical Body of Christ)*, written to the whole Church on the doctrine of the Church as the Body of Christ. His Holiness desired to strengthen the bishop's and people's understanding that all baptized members of the Church share in a visible unity of the Body of Christ—we are all members of his Body.



The Church is not reduced to a building or to an official, but is composed of all baptized members and is visibly present in the Catholic Church. Pope Pius XII knew that, in a time of suffering and grave challenge, the Church needed to be reminded of her supernatural connection to her Lord, and that this supernatural connection is shared by all her members.

As we draw closer to the implementation of the diocesan *Set Ablaze* initiative, it is no small providence that it shares this anniversary with *Mystici Corporis*. While we do not face the explicit opposition of the consuming deluge of war, we are facing a grave challenge to our lives as Christians as the culture around us continues to divorce itself from its Christian origins. Now is a time for courage founded in faith.

The unity of the Body of Christ on earth, the Catholic Church, is expressed locally in our diocese and our beloved parishes. When July 5 arrives, many of us are wondering: “What will happen? What will we face?”

Take courage in faith.

For the first months following July 5, 2023, we will not see much outward change. Our Mass times at our parishes will remain the same—initially. The first months will be a time for our newly assigned pastors to familiarize themselves with the pastorates and for you good people to familiarize yourselves with them. Then, after Sept. 1, 2023, the true work of *Set Ablaze* will begin. Your pastor will lead you in prayer, discussion and planning to see: “How do we provide the faith and grow the faith within our pastorate?”

This is no simple question.

All of us are aware that things are changing, whether through technology, demographics or politics. Our role as the Body of Christ on earth is as it always has been—to bring the light of Christ to areas of darkness and illumine the nations by Christ who dwells within us. Those who took Bishop DeGrood’s invitation to study the book “From Christendom to Apostolic Mission” are more aware of the long trajectory that brings us to this day.

Our coming work will take both faith and courage. Each of us must renew our faith as we go forward. It will take faith to remain confident that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever (see Heb 13:8). It will take faith to confess and hold that Jesus Christ is found on earth in the body of the Catholic Church.

It will take faith to see that the Church is present not just in buildings but, most of all, in the lives of the baptized. It will take faith to remember that God is always in charge—even if suffering comes our way—as we just celebrated with our annual observance of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

The Passion of Jesus always leads us to consider courage. Our coming work will take courage from each of us in many ways as well. Courage to break through the parochialism of the past that divided parish against parish. Courage to bear the light of Christ in areas of our culture where darkness consumes.

Courage to bear witness to friends, neighbors and family of the faith that brings the love of God. Courage to consider something new. I am so

grateful to have seen faith and courage in action already in the beginning efforts of the parishes I have served in Aberdeen. They had a long history of parochial turf battles—often led by their pastors—but they are softening and cooperating with wonderful faith and courage. Thanks be to God!

The Catholic Church is the Body of Christ on earth, composed not just of buildings but of each baptized believer. We might imagine ourselves as individual cells within the Body of our Lord—each one necessary for vibrant and active life and each one dependent on the Body as a whole to remain alive.

Our confidence comes not from ourselves but from the victory of our Lord. May your faith be strengthened and your courage show forth in the Body of Christ as we go forward in *Set Ablaze*.



**Father Andrew Dickinson**  
is pastor at the Aberdeen and  
Westport parishes.





# Is the Holy Spirit a force or a person?



*This might be a stupid question, but I'm going to ask it anyway. I know that we talk about the Holy Spirit a lot, but what exactly is the Holy Spirit?*





I'm so grateful for this question, because it's not stupid at all; on the contrary, it's actually a very common question, and therefore worth addressing.

By way of an initial answer, I'd like to address *why* it's such an important question. For many Catholics, and indeed for many Christians in general, the Holy Spirit seems like the power or "force" of God (think "the force" from the Star Wars movies). The Holy Spirit—God's Spirit—strikes many of us as the means (again, the "power") by which God acts and works.

To be sure, there's a lot of truth in that; the Holy Spirit is indeed the power of God. The Holy Spirit is the means by which God accomplishes, in essence, *everything*: from creation to the Incarnation to our personal sanctification. God the Father speaks his Word (the Son), and it is by means of the Holy Spirit that the will of the Father and the Son (the Word) is accomplished.

But the Holy Spirit is so much more than merely the power of God. The Holy Spirit is, in fact, *a person*. The Holy Spirit isn't merely *something*, he is *someone*.

It's helpful here to recall the words we say almost every Sunday at Mass, the words of the Nicene Creed:

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets."

The Holy Spirit isn't *just* the power of God. The Holy Spirit isn't an *it*, the Holy Spirit is a *he*—the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Holy Trinity. As we see in the Creed, the Holy Spirit is "the Lord." We often speak of God as Lord, or of Jesus as Lord, but do we reflect on the fact that the Holy Spirit is also the Lord?

Let's look at what a "lord" is. The dictionary tells us that a lord is "someone or something having power, authority or influence, a master or ruler." Again, most of us recognize how we can speak about God as Lord, or specifically about Jesus as Lord, but even though we profess the Nicene Creed every Sunday, we are less likely to think about the Holy Spirit as Lord, as someone who is our master, who has authority and influence.

And yet he is. As the Creed continues, it is in fact the Holy Spirit who is the "giver of life": it is the Holy Spirit by whom God not only creates us—in each moment—but also *transforms* us. It is the Holy Spirit, in other words, who

actually gives us the new life that Jesus won for us in his death and resurrection.

He not only gives us that new life, but he also—together with the Father and the Son—comes to dwell within each of us at the moment of our Baptism. We read in St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians these words: "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God?" (1 Cor 6:19).

Just as we considered the word "lord," it's worth reflecting a bit more deeply on what it means to say we are "temples" of the Holy Spirit. For most of us, when we think of a "temple," we think of a place of worship, like our parish church.

But for St. Paul and other first century Jews and Jewish Christians (like Jesus himself), the word "temple" meant so much more than just a place of worship. We know, for instance, that Jews would (and still do) gather together for prayer and for Scripture reading and study in synagogues. But St. Paul does not say that we are a "synagogue of the Holy Spirit"... he says we are a *temple* of the Holy Spirit.

For him and others in his time, the word "temple" called to mind just one thing: the magnificent Temple in Jerusalem, first built by King Solomon more than 900 years before Jesus, and then (because it was destroyed by invaders in 586 B.C.) rebuilt by Herod a few years before Jesus' birth.

The closest equivalent for us as Catholics today is probably St. Peter's in Rome, but even that incredible church doesn't have the same connotation to us that the Jerusalem Temple did for the Jews and Jewish Christians of Jesus' time.

So when St. Paul tells us each of us is a temple of the Holy Spirit, the significance of that is far greater than most of us realize: he is comparing each Christian to that incredible building in which God dwelt with his people.

When we celebrate Pentecost in a few weeks, let us pray for the grace to recognize the significance of what St. Paul said and praise God for the great gift of his Spirit!

Be sure to check out the additional resources at [sfcatholic.org/answer](https://sfcatholic.org/answer).

If you have a question you need an answer to, email [rkranz@sfcatholic.org](mailto:rkranz@sfcatholic.org).

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



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## The Most Reverend Thomas E. Gullickson

**Archbishop Thomas E. Gullickson is our featured priest this month. He was born in Sioux Falls to Leon and Dolores Gullickson and has two brothers (both of whom have passed) and five sisters. He was ordained June 27, 1976, and became a bishop Nov. 11, 2004. He is now happily retired, offering coverage for Mass for various parishes when needed.**

### **Q** *How did you get your call to the priesthood?*

“From my mother’s womb,” to quote Scripture. It has been a work in progress (the Lord gently leading) that I have noticed ever since I lost interest in being either a cowboy or a fireman. My image of the priesthood has grown with me and continues to grow.

### **Q** *What did you do before the priesthood?*

I’m a “lifer,” as they used to say in seminary parlance. I accepted an invitation from Monsignor Peter Meyer at the cathedral to be in the first class at the Minor Seminary out at O’Gorman. I did college seminary at St. Mary’s in Winona and was sent to Rome to the North American College for Theology.

### **Q** *Is there a particular part of Catholicism that really fascinates you?*

Late in life, I fell in love with the traditional Roman Rite. I love the old liturgy and am most impressed with traditional lay Catholics. I have managed an invitation to the FSSP Seminary in Denton, Nebraska, each year since I got home. The first year, I conferred tonsure on a group of seminarians; last year, I ordained priests; and this year, on the feast of the Annunciation, I will be ordaining deacons. I love it! If all goes well, I will be celebrating the Pontifical High Mass on Pentecost

Monday in the Chartres Cathedral at the conclusion of the Notre Dame de Chrétienté Pilgrimage from Paris to Chartres.

### **Q** *What’s your favorite part of being a priest?*

The liturgy. I especially like to hear confessions.

### **Q** *What’s the most challenging thing?*

Being faithful to my prayer obligations and growing more in prayer. I find my encounters with brother priests much more challenging than dealing with bishops, deacons and lay people.

### **Q** *Who is your go-to saint? Why?*

Probably my Guardian Angel. But I really hold to St. John the Baptist, as a martyr for truth, and to St. Martin of Tours for his charity, on whose feast day I was consecrated a bishop, Nov. 11, 2004. Martin impresses me terribly, both as a generous young man and as a dying old man still ready to serve.

### **Q** *What do you do in your spare time?*

In retirement, I have less free time than I did as an apostolic nuncio. I try to get in my strength training at the Avera McKennan Fitness Center as many days as possible. I walk outdoors, weather permitting, but if I can read, I am very happy. I am ruminating about a book project, but it is slow going. The fundamental question

I want to discuss is: “In what does priestly fruitfulness consist?” I want to look at asceticism in the life of St. Jean Marie Vianney and in the life of the protagonist of Georges Bernanos’ book, “Diary of a Country Priest.”

### **Q** *What is something most people don’t know about you?*

Either they don’t know or they don’t believe that I am really a Sioux Falls boy and that I spent my first five years of priesthood here at home.

### **Q** *How can people of the diocese best help you be a great retired bishop?*

Pray for me!

### **Q** *If you could have supper with anyone from history (besides Jesus), who would it be and why?*

I really think I would like to sit down with the Blessed Mother. If that is reaching too high, I would settle for St. Anthony of the Desert or St. Vincent Ferrer, OP. And why not? Let’s put St. Benedict on the list as well.

Curious about a particular religious vocation? Visit [sfccatholic.org/vocations](http://sfccatholic.org/vocations) to learn more about discerning God’s call for your life.

# HOW TO BE CHARITABLE

By Andrea Gibbs

**O**n May 15, the Catholic Church celebrates the one-year anniversary of the canonization of St. Charles de Foucauld: French soldier, explorer, geographer and hermit. Although St. Charles was martyred in 1916, long before the dawn of the digital world and social media, his life's work and his writings have much to teach us today as we navigate the ever-changing platforms online.

Recent studies report that the average American spends between five and six hours online daily, outside of their business requirements. These statistics tell us what we often avoid thinking about: we are spending the majority of our waking hours staring at a screen. This leads us, as Catholic Christians, to ponder whether we are being authentic and charitable with our online interactions, and whether we are acting as influencers or the ones being influenced.

St. Charles de Foucauld is sometimes quoted as saying, "Above all, always see Jesus in every person, and consequently treat each one not only as an equal and as a brother or sister, but also with great humility, respect and generosity." So often we see that dialogue online comes to a head as we feel the need to be right, at all costs. The back-and-forth arguing often leads to uncharitable words on both sides, even if the original intent was to defend the Church and her teachings.

When we are behind a keyboard or a phone screen, it is all too easy to lose perspective of the person on the other side, the person who is made in the image and likeness of God. Taking a physical step back to pray about the direction of the online discussion can often help reorder our thoughts.

When we are interacting online with someone, and he or she says something we know to be absolutely false, we can politely challenge this person's error. Often, people don't want to be wrong. The frustration that comes from an interaction like this tends to pull us in, as we give up so much mental energy and emotion. It can be a hard line to walk when we are passionate about a triggering post or discussion—how much to say, how much time to invest in the discussion, and how much we will let that discussion influence our emotions throughout the remainder of the day.

For many others, it is not as much of a challenge to just scroll past the controversy online. They are able to not get heavily emotionally invested in those posts meant to trigger and cause reactions. Even for them, the time spent reading online posts still can have an effect.

Emily Leedom serves as executive director of The Lourdes Center, a ministry of the Diocese of Sioux Falls that serves clients facing a variety of issues including depression, anxiety, grief, trauma and family difficulties. She says that although they have no way to specifically track the correlation of social media to the clients they serve, they do see the subtle effects of it often taking a toll on people, whether they realize it or not.



St. Charles de Foucauld



# AND AUTHENTIC ONLINE

“Boundaries are essential in order to embody healthy online behavior,” Emily says. “These boundaries include what you share, how much time you spend on it, how much influence a platform has on your emotions, and how much mental energy the platform consumes.”

“More than ever before, it is my belief that we need heroic virtue and faithful ‘influencers’ on our social platforms,” Emily continued. “We need authentic disciples who are on the journey that are willing to testify to what God is doing. We also need disciples who can witness to an integrated life of beauty, goodness and truth. However, to be an authentic witness online does not mean that the world must have full access to one’s life.”

This all leads us back to St. Charles de Foucauld’s ministry. He deeply desired to influence others. Throughout his life, he spent a great deal of time writing to several orders hoping to form communities of religious. Year after year, time moved on without a religious order ever coming to fruition for him.

Charles instead spent his time invested heavily in the people around him. He was able to be the voice, hands and feet of Christ to those in his community, rather than spending too much time hoping for an influence on those far away. He wrote, “To love anyone is to hope in him for always. From the moment at which we begin to judge anyone, to limit our confidence in him, from the moment at which we identify

him with what we know of him and so reduce him to that, we cease to love him and he ceases to be able to be better.”

St. Charles was able to interact with others genuinely, having influence far beyond his expectations. He teaches us that it is important to dialogue with everyone and to keep open lines of communication with those of differing beliefs. Now, some 100 years after his death, more than a dozen religious orders and communities have sprung up from his writings and his life of ministry.



Emily Leedom is the executive director of The Lourdes Center.

Our interactions, both in person and online, will have lasting effects on others, for better or worse. Emily adds, “Who we are online should flow directly from who we are in our friendships, workplaces and communities. While different elements of our personality might shine in different environments, they should never contradict.” Perhaps then we should each continue to monitor our own interactions with others to keep healthy boundaries and influence, and lead others to Christ.

St. Charles de Foucauld, pray for us.

**When you’re online and find yourself tempted to be uncharitable, consider praying for guidance and grace from the Holy Spirit with this prayer: *Come Holy Spirit, guide my actions, thoughts and words so that they conform fully to God’s holy will. Let me be a beacon of God’s love to those who walk in darkness.***

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**ABERDEEN** – Daniel and Vivian Vetter will celebrate their 60th anniversary on May 27. They have 5 children, 10 grandchildren (1 deceased) and 9 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



**DIMOCK** – Jerome and Sharon Weber celebrated their 60th anniversary on April 15. They have 5 children, 9 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren and are members of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish.



**ELK POINT** – Eric and Paige Fornia will celebrate their 25th anniversary on May 14. They have 4 children, 1 grandchild and are members of St. Peter Parish.



**EPIPHANY** – Richard and Jean Johnson celebrated their 60th anniversary on April 27. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren and are members of Epiphany Parish.



**EUREKA** – Adam and Theresa Heilman celebrated their 50th anniversary on April 28. They have 4 children, 14 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Joseph Parish.



**GEDDES** – Mark and Sandy Gant will celebrate their 50th anniversary on May 26. They have 2 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Ann Parish.



**HURON** – Jeff and Ann Gilbert celebrated their 25th anniversary on April 18. They have 3 children and are members of Holy Trinity Parish.



**SIOUX FALLS** – Mike and Masako Gould will celebrate their 55th anniversary on May 25. They have 2 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of Cathedral of Saint Joseph Parish.



**WATERTOWN** – Brian and Gerri Ann DeBoer will celebrate their 50th anniversary on May 5. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of Immaculate Conception Parish.



**WATERTOWN** – Mike and Jan Mullin celebrated their 50th anniversary on April 6. They are members of Holy Name of Jesus 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 May 19 for inclusion in the July 2023 edition to:

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## Benedictine Sister Rose Palm dies at 85

Sister Rose Palm of Mother of God Monastery died Feb. 28, 2023, at the monastery. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated March 7 at Mother of God Monastery in Watertown. Burial was at the monastery cemetery.

Rose was born May 25, 1937, to Peter and Emma (Wanner) Palm of Richardton, North Dakota. She attended elementary and high school at St. Mary's School in Richardton. In 1955, Rose started college at Mount Marty, and after one year, she entered Sacred Heart Convent and was given the name Augustine. Later, she returned to her baptismal name of Rose.

On June 15, 1961, Rose was a founding member of Mother of God Monastery and became part of the first class to make their final vows in the new community on June 25, 1961.

Rose began a career in teaching and instructed nearly every grade in everything from the sciences to music. She ministered in Webster, Watertown, Stephan and Aberdeen, as well as Richardton and Ft. Yates, North Dakota. She also served in pastoral care at a hospital in Des Moines, Iowa, and was a campus minister at the St. Thomas More Newman Center at USD in Vermillion for nine years.

Within her community, Rose served as lay associate and volunteer director. She also served as vocations and formation director, as a member of the Stewardship of the Earth task force and as spiritual director to many.

Sister Rose is survived by her six sisters: Sister Charles, Sister Aurelia, Dorothy, Angela, Mary Teresa and Geriann, and her brother, Michael.



## Benedictine Sister Madonna Schmitt dies at 94

Sister Madonna Schmitt, OSB, 94, died March 20, 2023. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated March 24 at Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel in Yankton. Burial was at the Sacred Heart Monastery cemetery.

Donna Rose was born on Aug. 23, 1928, to Frank and Antoinette (Bartscher) Schmitt, and was the second of five children. She grew up on a farm east of Epiphany and attended St. Mary's Catholic School until May 1942. On Aug. 23, 1942, she entered Sacred Heart Monastery and attended Mount Marty High School. She graduated in the spring of 1945 and became a novice on June 23, receiving the name Madonna. Her first profession was June 24, 1946, and her final profession was June 24, 1950.

Sister Madonna obtained a bachelor's



degree in music from Mount Marty College in 1959, and a master's degree in music education from the University of South Dakota in 1961. She taught music in Webster, Zell, Hoven, Yankton and Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and York, Nebraska. She also earned a bachelor's degree in liturgical music

from the University of Montreal. For a time, she was the director of postulants for the monastery and later became a pastoral minister for the Diocese of Grand Island, Nebraska, and other parishes in Sioux Falls.

After completing her clinical pastoral education certification at Rochester Methodist Hospital in Minnesota, she became a chaplain in Rochester and Cedar Rapids, Iowa, until returning to the monastery to be a temporary liturgist. Her later years were spent volunteering at Avera Sacred Heart and Mount Marty College.

Sister Madonna is survived by her Benedictine community and her sister, Janice Wermers. She is preceded in death by her parents, her brother Duane (Rusty) Schmitt, and her sisters Carol Bennett Dorsey and Shirley Eich.





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### SILENT RETREATS

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November 16-19

#### Women's Silent Retreats

June 15-18  
October 5-8  
November 2-5

### SPECIAL RETREATS

#### Healing Retreats

**October 13-15, 2023**  
**Undone: A Healing Retreat**  
- directed by Father Scott Traynor

#### Couples Retreat

### 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.*

**May 9, 2023**  
**Power from on High: Pentecost**  
- directed by Dr. Chris Burgwald

**June 20, 2023**  
**Jesus Christ the Divine Physician**  
- directed by Dr. Teresa Kemmer

**August 22, 2023**  
- directed by Father Thomas Anderson

**September 12, 2023**  
**A God Who Knocks- Part 1 of 3**  
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## Sacred Heart Monastery elects new prioress



Sister Penny Bingham, OSB was elected as the new prioress of Sacred Heart Monastery in Yankton on March 18, 2023. A council member of the Federation of St. Gertrude, Sister Jennifer Mechtild Horner, OSB, presided at the election. She and Sister Marcia Ziska, OSB of Atchison, Kansas, were facilitators for the discernment process. The installation

ceremony of the prioress-elect will be on June 3.

Sister Penny becomes the 15th prioress of the monastery. She will serve as the spiritual and administrative leader of the 64 professed members of the monastery and the women in formation. She will guide the community in continuing their transformative visioning process for the future and

implementing goals according to that vision. She serves as chairperson of the Monastic Council and president of the corporate board.

Being prioress is a role with which Sister Penny is familiar.

“My humorous side says that our election proves our monastery’s commitment to recycling, since I’ve served as prioress earlier,” Sister Penny said. “My serious side recognizes our trusting the Holy Spirit, who calls forth the gifts of every sister as we go together into the unfolding future. I am humbled and happy to be part of this wonderful community and serve in this way.”

Born in Arlington, Massachusetts, to the late Leonard and Rita Bingham, Sister Penny moved to Pickstown, South Dakota, with her family at age 12. She graduated from Mount Marty College in 1973 and entered Sacred Heart Monastery in 1975. Her ministry has included teaching elementary school, assisting older sisters, parish ministry and community leadership. She currently serves as a spiritual director in the monastery’s Peace Center and as an Avera Health Board and System member. She will serve a six-year term as the new prioress.

 Sioux Falls Convention Center

# SAVE THE DATE

# AUGUST 22, 2023

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**Recitation of the Rosary**

**Friday, May 5** – 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.

**May Crowning of Our Lady**

**May 7** – Sacred Heart Parish, Aberdeen, is hosting a May crowning of Our Lady. Please plan to attend the 10 a.m. Baccalaureate Mass, as Marian hymns will be sung while processing out of the church after Mass to the Marian garden. Everyone is welcome and feel free to bring your favorite flowers. Please call Chiara at 605-225-7065 if you have any questions.

**Blessed McGivney Youth Camp**

**June 23-25** – The Knights of Columbus will host the Blessed McGivney Youth Camp at Broomtree Retreat Center. The camp is based on the four principles of the order: charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. Young Catholic men, ages 13-19, and their fathers are invited to attend. Activities will include games, swimming, canoeing and guest speakers. There is no cost to attend. For more information, contact John Limoges at johnlimoges@hotmail.com.

**Pray at Minnehaha County Courthouse with the Jericho Wall group**

**Tuesdays** – In Joshua 1:14, fighting-age men are called to go to Jericho's wall to fight for the women and children. Today, we are called to step out for our faith. Men are meeting on Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. at the Minnehaha County Courthouse to pray the Rosary for our women and children. We are asking for men to join us. If you have questions, call Paul at 605-201-5428. Women are welcome.

**Help for parents who have lost a newborn or pre-born child**

If you've lost a child due to miscarriage, still birth or shortly after birth, the Angel Lee Cronen Memorial Fund is available to assist you in dealing with your loss by helping you secure

a proper burial for your child. Most parents don't know what to do when faced with this situation and are often unable to pay for the services involved. This fund exists to help during this difficult time. For more information, contact Deacon Bill Radio at 605-336-7390 or dcnwilliamradio@sfcatholic.org.

**The Lourdes Center**

**Seasons of Hope** – A six-week Bible study for individuals who are grieving will begin on Tuesday, June 6, and end on Tuesday, July 18. The study runs from 8:45-10 a.m. each week. It is hosted by The Lourdes Center at 523 N. Duluth Ave., Sioux Falls, SD. Please call 605-988-3775 to register.

**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:**

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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](http://www.perpetualadorationsisters.org), for more information.

**Sacred Heart Monastery**

**May 5** – Online Lectio Divina at 10 a.m., Fridays, May 5, 12, 19 and 26. 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](mailto:pbingham@yanktonbenedictines.org) or 605-668-6023. Include your email address.

**May 20** – Monthly Contemplative Mornings – Meeting Saturday, from 9-11:15 a.m. Contact S. Doris at 605-668-6022 or [doberembt@yanktonbenedictines.org](mailto:doberembt@yanktonbenedictines.org). [yanktonbenedictines.org/retreats-contemplative-mornings](http://yanktonbenedictines.org/retreats-contemplative-mornings).

**June 14** – Benedictine Spirituality: A Leaven for Contemporary Culture lecture at 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Monastery, Yankton. Come hear Abbot Primate Gregory Polan who resides in Rome and serves Benedictine women and men world-wide. There is no cost to attend. Register by June 9 at [yanktonbenedictines.org/benedictine-path](http://yanktonbenedictines.org/benedictine-path), email [BenedictinePeaceCtr@yanktonbenedictines.org](mailto:BenedictinePeaceCtr@yanktonbenedictines.org) or call 605-668-6292.

**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](http://yanktonbenedictines.org/silent-personal-retreats).

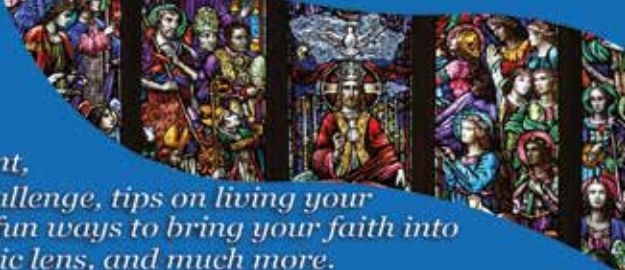
**Spiritual Direction** – Share your experience of God with an experienced companion-guide and intensify your spiritual journey. Scheduling is flexible, typically meeting once a month. Contact us to visit about online or in-person options at [BenedictinePeaceCtr@yanktonbenedictines.org](mailto:BenedictinePeaceCtr@yanktonbenedictines.org)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

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Meet our Seminarians

Cash Raffles

Outdoor Prime Rib Dinner

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## TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE

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MONDAY

**JUNE 5**

DOUTHITT PARK

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MONDAY

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OAHE DOWNSTREAM  
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SUPPORTING

# SEMINARIAN EDUCATION

All proceeds help fund seminarian education in our diocese. We currently have 14 men discerning their call to the priesthood. Please join us in supporting these amazing young men.

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