

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN



HELP BUILD A FOUNDATION IN FAITH

The St. Thomas More Miracle and vibrant renewal

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THE LOCAL CHURCH

PAGE 16

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

Golden opportunity in Catholic school education

Having been blessed with the gift of attending Catholic school for grades 1-12 in my hometown, I can attest that if Catholic school education is done well, it can be extremely beneficial to students, parents, parishes, communities and the Church. Any parish or group of parishes that provides a Catholic school option knows it is a significant commitment on behalf of the parish to support the important work of Catholic education.

We are blessed in our diocese to have 16 grade schools, five middle/junior high schools and four high schools with opportunities to support parents in educating their children in a Catholic school environment.

Catholic school education works in tandem with strong Catholic parenting at home. The Church teaches that

the primary responsibility of educating children belongs to parents.

“Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and disinterested service are the rule. The home is well suited for education in the virtues.” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2223)

Catholic schools, like any other form of Catholic education, are not a replacement for parents fulfilling their responsibility of being the primary educators of faith for their children. Rather, Catholic schools and religious education programs in parishes are there to *assist* parents in educating children and youth in the faith.

Without parents *actively* teaching and living the Catholic faith, our youth

will be deprived of necessary spiritual nourishment. Children will not remain grounded in what they learn in our Catholic schools if the lessons they learn there are not reinforced by parents at home. The Church and the world, more now than ever, need parents to take this responsibility seriously.

Catholic schools provide a positive, proactive and rich way to pass on our beloved Catholic faith in its most faithful expression. Combined with strong Catholic parenting, these institutions are pillars of Catholic life and culture amidst the uncertainties of the secular world.

I invite you to join me in praying for parents and encouraging them to prayerfully discern the option of supporting and sending their children to the Catholic schools within our diocese.

BISHOP'S SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

- 1 - 11 Episcopal Formation, Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum, Rome
- 16 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 18 Bishop's Charity Hunt, Horseshoe K Ranch, Kimball
- 19- 22 Institute for Priestly Formation - Bishop's Conference, Mundelein, IL
- 23 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 24 1:30 Anniversary Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph
- 28 2:30 SPS & SJV Seminaries Board of Trustees meeting
- 30 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*

OCTOBER

- 1 6:30 Mass, Monastery of Our Mother of Mercy and St. Joseph, Alexandria
- 2-5 Clergy Days, Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center, Cedar Shores
- 7 5:00 Confirmation for Pastorate 8 - St. John the Evangelist, Arlington, St. Thomas More, Brookings, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Elkton, St. Francis de Sales, Estelline, St. Paul, White, at St. Thomas More, Brookings
- 8 1:30 Confirmation for Pastorate 11 - St. Thomas Aquinas, De Smet, Holy Trinity, Huron, St. Joseph, Wessington Springs, St. Wilfrid, Woonsocket, at St. Thomas Aquinas, De Smet

*Broadcast on Keloland TV or livestream via sfcatholic.org

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Set Ablaze disrupts trends with aspirational goals

How will Set Ablaze pastoral planning disrupt the trends of decline we currently see in our Church and create more vibrant Catholic communities?



The pastoral plan proposal that each pastorate will give to Bishop DeGrood for approval will be organized around four categories: worship, evangelization, service and community. These aspirational goals will guide town hall meetings and engagement with the lay faithful as planning begins. Along with preset parameters, the goals will also guide the Pastoral Planning committees in the practical decisions (such as parish-level staffing, Mass schedules, corporate/canonical structure, etc.) to be made throughout planning. This will ensure decisions are made in light of the aspirational goals to advance ***Lifelong Catholic Missionary Discipleship Through God's Love.***

We've created this graphic to clarify the planning process in light of the aspiration goals.

What are the aspirational goals?



Worship

Develop a prioritized plan to elevate, enhance and cultivate our experience of worship as an expression of Lifelong Catholic Missionary Discipleship Through God's Love.



Discipleship and Evangelization

To make our efforts of discipleship and evangelization more intentional, consistent and fruitful so as to build a culture of Lifelong Catholic Missionary Discipleship Through God's Love.



Service

To build Lifelong Catholic Missionary Discipleship Through God's Love by intentional, sustained and growing efforts of Christian service in the pastorate.



Community

To build authentic relationships and habits of community among the families, parishes and communities of the pastorate.

A plan for each goal will be developed by answering these questions:



1 Where are we?



2 Where do we want to go?



3 What is our roadmap for getting there?

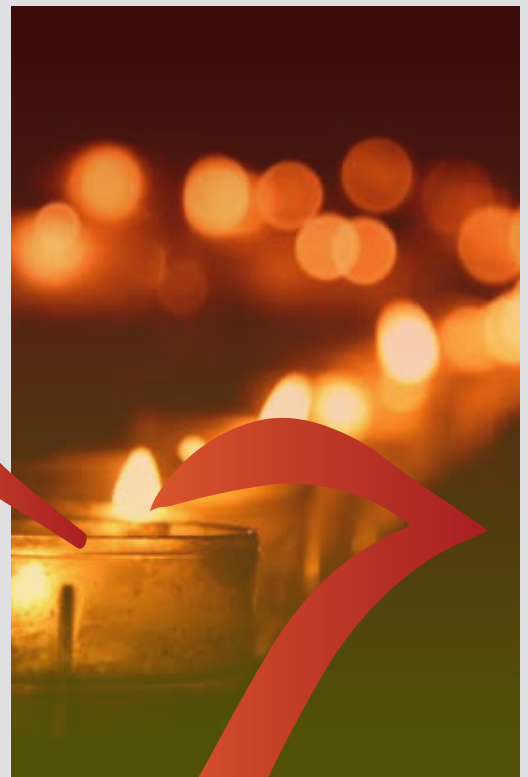


4 How will we know we are succeeding?

In town hall and other informational meetings and in the pastoral planning committee meetings, questions for reflection will help in developing the plan for each goal. These offer time to think about specific aspects of the goal in question and how the pastorate might aspire to accomplish that goal.

Here's an example of some possible reflection questions for the Community goal:

- How might our worship help people encounter Jesus' presence, love and blessing more powerfully?
- How might we help Catholics who have stopped attending Mass return?
- Are there age groups/life situations that are missing from our worship?



Time for reflection and input from those in the pastorate, followed by building a plan to disrupt the trends of decline through the aspirational goals, will set each pastorate on a path to turn decline into an opportunity to grow and spread the Gospel to their mission field. It will set each pastorate and our diocese ablaze with the fire of God's love.

Visit the Set Ablaze website for more information and to watch an interview with Bishop DeGroot that goes into more detail about the four aspirational goals of Set Ablaze.

SET

Ablaze

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Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls



Learn more at setablazesf.org or scan the QR code



THE ST. THOMAS MORE MIRACLE AND VIBRANT RENEWAL

By Casey Bassett

We're at a pivotal moment in the history of the Church.

Future generations might well look back on this time and say, "Bold men and women with expectant faith raised their heads from the drumbeat of decline and began living their faith. Roused by their love for God, they became instruments of God's will in the vibrant renewal of our diocese."

For many, this might seem like wishful thinking—a nicety meant to instill some temporary hope. But the tell-tale signs of this renewal are happening right before our eyes if we only know where to look.

LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

St. Thomas More Parish in Brookings is home to one of the only traditional private schools in the area and certainly the only Catholic one.

"We're the only private option in Brookings that is traditional in the sense that we have a single teacher for each grade level," said Meghan

Kelly, principal of St. Thomas More Catholic School.

Meghan has been involved with the school since 2005, but it wasn't until 2017 that a kindergarten class was finally added to the long-standing preschool. Then, every year after that, a grade was added up to grade three.

Prospects for students after completing grade three usually meant a transition to public school. Inevitably, this meant losing the rich experience of Catholic life during the school days that often included adoration and daily Mass.

In the midst of ideological conflict and disturbances to traditional classroom learning that have rocked school systems nationwide, Meghan began to sense a shift in parents' priorities. "I think we're seeing a lot of families ... longing to have God as a part of their child's education."

Meghan didn't have to go far to find one such parent.



Meghan Kelly, principal of St. Thomas More Catholic School.

BECOMING THE INSTRUMENT OF GOD'S WILL

Angela Bucholz works as an administrative assistant for St. Thomas More School, but her investment in the school goes beyond her professional role. In the fall of 2022, her daughter started third grade at the school. As soon as the

year started, the thought of having to uproot her daughter from the rich Christ-centered education at St. Thomas More was constantly on Angela's mind.

"I started panicking from day one," said Angela. "I had a lot on my plate as a mom and just trying to figure out what was best for her."

What seemed best was to keep her daughter at St. Thomas More beyond third grade. When the thought of trying to add a fourth grade in time for the 2023-2024 school year entered Angela's thoughts, she knew it would take a miracle.

Adding grades to Catholic schools is no easy task. In fact, it typically takes years to raise the funds and acquire the necessary approvals for just a single grade to be added. And so, she turned to the only one who could help.

"During adoration, I was just begging God: 'What do I do?'" said Angela. "I very clearly heard the Lord speak to me, 'Why don't you stop doing and let me do it. Let me show you the strength of my arm.'"

From that moment on, God took Angela's panic and worry and replaced it with bold, expectant faith. She began openly praying for a miracle at staff prayer and sharing her vision of adding a fourth grade with nearly everyone she encountered.

TRANSFORMING HEARTS

At the urging of Father Terry Anderson, and with the full support of Evan Baumberger, the parish's director of discipleship and evangelization, Angela began attending parish council and school advisory meetings.

"There was well-founded hesitation in all these groups," said Angela. "I went in with a plan. I laid my heart out."

One concern that quickly came up was whether or not the school had adequate facilities to support more grades.

"Luxury is not necessity," said Angela. "We think we need luxury—we'll have this beautiful luxurious thing laid out and then we can go in. These kids need Christ. Why would we send them away when we could make something work?"

When questions about funding an additional teacher came up, parishioners and donors answered at the annual gala.

"They blew fundraising out of the water," Angela recalled. "Our parishioners and

donors are extremely generous here."

And then there was the question of finding a new teacher in time. Angela recalled meeting someone and being inspired by the Holy Spirit. "I'm going to offer Mass so that this person can be our fourth-grade teacher."

Shortly thereafter, that very person accepted the position.

As the weeks passed and a once seemingly impossible feat began to look more likely, Meghan recalled seeing the miracle unfold.

"Every hurdle our humanness threw out in front of us was just gone," Meghan said. "Every group that needed to approve it to go to the next level approved it."

As the end of the 2022-2023 school year approached, the final approvals were secured and, with the blessing of Bishop DeGrood, a dream that began in March became a reality. The first fourth-grade class at St. Thomas More will begin in the fall of 2023. As soon as it was announced, the class was nearly full.

"The only person who could have done this was God," said Angela. "Only the Holy Spirit can change hearts so drastically in such a short amount of time."

As if this wasn't enough of a miracle, a fifth-grade class will be added starting in the fall of 2024. This will provide an easier transition for the children into middle school elsewhere.

"Yes, pray for a miracle," Angela explained, "but expect God to fulfill that in a bigger way than you could ever imagine."

And Angela was not shy about the future.

"My goal," said Angela confidently, "is K-12."

TURNING OUR HEADS

While the world works tirelessly to keep our attention on the gloom of decline, God is multiplying loaves and fishes in our midst. What's more, he is transfiguring the supposed inevitable decline around us into a vibrant future.

The miracles we read about in Scripture are not abstractions, nor are they singular events. They still occur today. We do not see them if we remain chained to the world. But, for those who turn from the world and choose to live their faith fervently, God will make them instruments of his will in the great renewal of our diocese and the Church.



Angela Bucholz,
administrative assistant for
St. Thomas More School.



CATHOLIC

HELP BUILD A FOU

By Laura Melius

Catholic schools have been a part of the eastern South Dakota landscape for nearly 120 years. The decades since six Dominican sisters opened the first Catholic school in Sioux Falls in 1905 have brought many changes to Catholic education in South Dakota, from the growth and decline of boarding schools, to the addition of preschools, to improved special education programs.

Currently, there are 25 Catholic schools serving students in preschool through high school throughout the Diocese of Sioux Falls. From the very first school to the current Catholic schools that serve our diocese, all have sought to provide an education based on the same foundation—a strong, authentic Catholic culture that seeks to spread the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

How have our Catholic schools managed to maintain this solid foundation? How are they unique in their educational mission, and how can we support them in this mission into the future?

Building Catholic culture

Brenda Mitzel, director of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Sioux Falls, believes Catholic schools can preserve and provide the foundation of Catholic culture in a variety of ways.

“A rich Catholic culture must be present in every Catholic school,” Brenda said. “We also refer to this as a school’s ‘Catholic identity.’ This is present every day in the school through prayer, both private and communal. The weekly celebration of Holy Mass and time spent before the Blessed Sacrament in adoration are ways our Catholic identity comes alive.”

Brenda, who has been involved in

Catholic education for more than 30 years as a teacher and administrator, added that as Catholic schools follow the liturgical calendar, students learn about feast days, saints and the liturgical seasons, which further reinforces the faith foundation on a daily basis. Additional opportunities also supplement the culture.

“Students experience retreats, sing songs of praise and worship, gather for small-group Bible studies and learn to help others through service projects” she said. “A welcoming atmosphere, gestures of kindness and a sense of community are features of a Catholic culture that are taught and nurtured throughout the schools.”

Father Tony Klein, chaplain at O’Gorman High School, believes that both a strong faith foundation at home and faithful faculty in Catholic schools are main components of nurturing a healthy Catholic culture. As with



SCHOOLS

FOUNDATION IN FAITH

any school, the students have a major impact on that school's culture.

"The more students who have a strong faith from their families will often help the school to be more authentic in their mission," he explained. "As important as Catholic schools are, nothing can replace the home. The schools are meant to be a supplement to the life of faith at home, never a replacement."

It begins with faculty

When we look at a typical Catholic school faculty, they look quite different from those in the first Catholic schools, when priests and religious occupied most of the teaching roles.

"With fewer religious and priests available to teach or be in administration, many lay people have risen to fill those roles," Father Klein said. He sees present-day faculties fostering a healthy culture in a variety of ways. "Sometimes it is done through things

that are more explicitly religious, such as beginning class in prayer, going to the church or chapel, or preparing for the sacraments. Sometimes it can be done through the witness of a teacher's own testimony or tying in some aspect of the faith in other disciplines," he said.

Grace Eisenberg, a second-grade teacher at St. Mary School in Sioux Falls, has recognized the significance of remaining close to the sacraments in school, which in turn keeps the students close to Jesus.

"The best way for any of us to get to heaven is by staying close to Jesus in the sacraments," Grace said. "When our children are in Mass or receiving Reconciliation, we are helping them stay close to the one who will ultimately guide them to grow in virtue."

Grace grew up attending Roncalli Catholic Schools in Aberdeen from preschool through high school. She

had the unique experience of being immersed in Catholic culture both at school and at home, as her father was an English and theology teacher at Roncalli junior and senior high schools.

"I got to witness that community and sacramental living at an early age because of his life as a Catholic school teacher," she said. "I would attribute that witness to my desire to attend Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, to be formed in order to become a Catholic elementary school teacher."

As a teacher, Grace continues to find the consistency of the Catholic Church a source of beauty and strength.

"In a world where truth is relative, the Church remains a constant place of peace and joy in my life," Grace said. "There, of course, have been some changes in our Catholic schools, but at the core, it has really remained the same since I have been a student myself. Community and truth."

Community support

Often, Catholic schools are connected to a larger parish community. “For a child to see their school friends, teachers and other staff members from their school day living out their faith, it brings a whole new meaning to who they are surrounded by each day,” Grace added. “There is also a beautiful opportunity for teachers and parents to be in community with each other outside of the classroom and see that their commonality isn’t just the child, but Jesus Christ himself.”

Brenda agrees with Grace as she, too, has witnessed the strong presence of community in Catholic education.

“Community is a strong characteristic of Catholic schools,” Brenda said. “Students unite together in solidarity and challenge each other to become better reflections of Jesus Christ.”

Some of Brenda’s favorite memories as a Catholic educator stem from when the school community relied on their faith and each other to get through difficult moments, such as encountering the pain of death. “We were able to lean into our faith, take students to church or the chapel, and pray for the soul of the faithful departed. We could also talk about our eternal future, reinforcing the virtue of hope,” she said.

The Catholic schools have also begun to establish a larger community with each other. The school administrators meet virtually each month and in-person twice per year to learn from each other.

“Outside of regular meetings, the administrators communicate with one another, seeking answers to questions, looking for resources and supporting one another,” Brenda said. “Administrators have also pooled resources to provide professional development for teachers.”

Educators in Catholic schools appreciate the opportunity to view and care

for their students through a Catholic lens, educating and nurturing them mind, body and soul.

“Catholic schools embrace the Church’s teaching on the dignity of the human person, recognizing that all are made in God’s image and all share a common destiny with him,” Brenda said. “This foundation inherently offers an education unique from any other, which will provide benefits to students far beyond high school.”

Grace added, “If a student is needing extra instruction, we don’t just move on. We see them and offer that time. When a student is struggling with self-regulation, we don’t pass them off as unworthy of patience or redirection. We see their dignity and help guide them in love.”

She also finds it important that educators not try to project a “perfect” image. “We show students that we need Jesus to be saints in heaven. We walk with our students, not in front of them.”

Connecting faith with life

Additionally, a main goal of Catholic educators is to demonstrate how faith is connected in all areas of life.

“The goal is not to make the faith one aspect of the student’s life, but to show how everything, even other subjects, can all be connected,” Father Klein said. “Truth has one source, and so whether we are studying biological truths, historical truths or stories from Scripture, they all flow from the same source and are meant to help us return to that source.”

Living in this truth can provide an invaluable support system, especially when it is found both at home and in school.

“When a child is in the Catholic school systems from preschool until high school, you have the opportunity to give them a space where there is still truth bumpering their lives,” Grace explained. “In the Catholic schools, they are guided by the truths of the faith, and at home they are guided by the truths of the faith. When they fail, no matter what the failure, all of the adults that surround them will be there to help them back up.”

As today’s students are faced with questions and situations that previous generations did not have to consider or encounter, this daily Catholic presence in their lives becomes more and more vital.

“As questions about God, humanity and reality as a whole become more and more prevalent, it is important to have a place where those good questions have good answers,” Father Klein said. “Unfortunately, many young people ask significant questions and settle for cheap answers. The Church has a rich history of intellectual life, unparalleled by any other organization.”

Father Klein said O’Gorman saw two foreign exchange students join the Catholic Church this past Easter. Both had some exposure to the Church in their home countries through friends, and they had considered Catholicism for the past couple of years.

“In addition to going to RCIA classes at the parish of their host families, we were able to meet during the school week to go deeper into any areas of confusion they had. That’s a real gift that wouldn’t have been possible elsewhere,” Father Klein said.

Grace recalled an experience with her second graders a couple of years ago when they encountered Scripture in a new way.

Go deeper

Want to learn more about the Catholic schools in the diocese? Visit sfatholic.org/catholic-schools.

“I had such profound experiences as a youth with *Lectio Divina*, and it kept coming to my mind to do with my second graders,” she said. She initially put off the thought, as she did not think her students would understand what she was asking them to do when listening and responding to the Scripture. “Eventually, one day I took two verses and introduced a very simplified version of *Lectio*. I had the kids get cozy in the classroom, led them in a quick spontaneous prayer asking the Holy Spirit to be with us and then read the Word.”

After she repeated the verses, Grace asked the students to share what word or part of the Scripture passage stuck out to them. “Almost the whole class shared, and not a single student repeated another. The things that God was showing these eight year olds convinced me that he is working. I realized that day the holy ground I walk on each day.”

Sent out to serve

As the students grow in their Catholic education, they, in turn, will project their faith to the world.

“Catholic schools play a vital role as an engine of evangelization for the Church, especially in this secular world,” Brenda said. “Students receive a Catholic view of the world for 35 hours a week, 36 weeks a year. This influence has a ripple effect on the family and the wider culture.”

This Catholic influence encourages young people to be active and caring members of the communities of which they are a part. “Students learn that service is essential, and they are, in fact, their ‘brother’s keeper’ and have a responsibility to respond to the needs of those around them,” Brenda added.

How can we help support our Catholic schools to continue their mission?

“First and foremost, prayer is the most colossal gift that can be offered,” Brenda said. “Prayer warriors for the spiritual protection of our schools, staff, students and families are greatly appreciated.”

Additionally, Brenda named financial gifts for professional development, instructional tools, tuition support, scholarships and lunch balances to support struggling families as some ways schools and students can be supported financially.

“If you have a local Catholic school that you are able to support by sending your kids there or supporting it financially, please consider it,” Father Klein encouraged.

Brenda encourages all families to visit their local Catholic school to learn more about the opportunities they provide. Many scholarship programs are available to make it an affordable option. “Cost should never be an obstacle that discourages a family from looking into Catholic education,” she said.

When considering a Catholic education, Grace echoed Father Klein’s thoughts on starting at home.

“Be a domestic church first, and tell your children why you love Jesus Christ in the Eucharist,” Grace said. “If you have first-hand experience with Catholic schools, tell others why you think they are valuable, and build up your own parish community.”

As Catholic education has been a valuable part of the Diocese of Sioux Falls for over a century, it will continue to be well into the future as they provide a Catholic presence in a secular world.

“Catholic education has always been at the heart of Catholic mission,” Brenda concluded. “Catholic education, and the students who are the product of it, have been called, ‘the greatest work of the Church.’”



The Bishop O’Gorman all-school Mass during Catholic Schools Week 2023.



Can the laity really be missionaries?

Q

I've always thought of missionaries as priests, sisters, etc., who traveled to other countries to spread the Gospel, but lately I've been hearing that we're all called to be missionaries. I'm not quite sure what that means. Can you shed some light on that for me?

A

In last month's issue, we gave the first part of an answer to this excellent question by focusing on the fact that all members of the Church, including the laity, are called to participate in the Church's mission to make and form disciples.

This month, we'll turn to what is for many the "million-dollar question": How? *How* can those of us who are lay members of Christ's faithful flock participate in this mission? Understandably, many laity feel unequipped to participate in the work of evangelization, for a great number of reasons. It's important, then, that we talk a bit about what evangelization by the laity looks like and how they can accomplish it.

One understandable reason why the laity often question their own ability to fruitfully evangelize is because they look at the years of formation clergy and religious receive and conclude that they, not having received similar formation, cannot engage in the same work. To put it more simply, the laity view clergy and religious as "experts in evangelization" and themselves as ... well, *not* experts.

In addition to that concern, many laity look at the call to evangelize and then look at their own sins and conclude

they are not holy enough to engage in this work. If evangelization means telling others about Jesus and what it means to follow him, they see their own failures to follow him as obstacles to evangelize others with honesty and authenticity.

These concerns are certainly understandable. To the first one, there are indeed "experts" in the Church—ordained, religious and lay alike—who have often received extensive education and training to more effectively share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with others.

But whatever formal education those experts have received is built on a deep foundation all members of the Church have: the graces of Baptism and the other sacraments, which all of the faithful receive. Note that, according to the Church, the call to evangelize is *not* for those who have attained a certain level of formation, but for those who have been baptized. That means that, in at least some sense, to be baptized is sufficient to do the work of evangelization.

To be sure, it is extremely helpful to receive additional training and education, as is true with virtually any task we are called to undertake. And indeed, all of the faithful are called to deepen their own faith, including both their relationship with God and their familiarity with the Church's teachings.

Again, though, we cannot downplay the reality that simply living the life of the baptized—personal prayer and participation in the liturgical life of the Church, increasing knowledge of Church teachings, etc.—is enough to at least begin the work of evangelization.

This leads us to another crucial point: the nature of evangelization. Many laity are concerned about their lack of formal training or deep holiness as an obstacle to evangelization because they imagine evangelization as "cold calling" or "door to door sales," in which they approach strangers and tell them about Jesus and his teachings.

Now, it's true that there are some Catholics who do engage in the work of evangelization in that manner. However, that's just *one way* to evangelize, and, in fact, it's one that most of us are not called to in a consistent way.

Instead, we should think of evangelization as telling people we know about someone we know who has changed our lives, and doing so with enthusiasm and excitement.

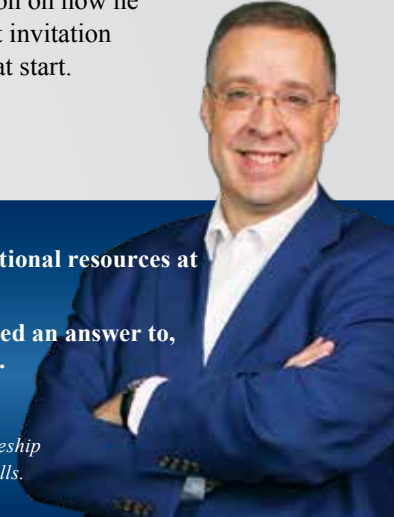
The fact is, all of us evangelize all the time. Anytime we recommend a restaurant, book, movie or musician to someone, we are "evangelizing": we are telling others about something that has positively impacted our lives. The only difference between this "everyday evangelization" and

Catholic evangelization is that in the latter, we are talking about Jesus and the difference he and his teachings are making in our own lives.

And it's at this point that a real obstacle to effective evangelization does arise: many Catholics, not just laity, are unable to quickly and easily explain the difference that Jesus has made in their lives. Fortunately, addressing this obstacle is simply a matter of taking some time to reflect on our lives

and how we are different because of our relationship with Jesus. And if we truly cannot think of any ways in which we are different because of him, we can just as easily ask him in prayer to enter into our lives to begin that work of transformation.

There's of course much more we might say about how we can all evangelize, but beginning with a reliance on God's grace and reflection on how he has changed our lives (or an explicit invitation that he would do just that) are a great start.



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.

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Discover an abundant life worth living



By Lois Heron

When author and evangelical Protestant pastor Rick Warren wrote “The Purpose Driven Life,” he attempted to answer the question, “What on earth am I here for?” The book became a best-seller because our society is always searching for the answer to the same question. That book is just one of the many that try to answer the same question.

The search for meaning and purpose is as old as humankind. Why can’t we answer the question and be done with it, instead of looking for another opinion? The struggle to know who we are and why we are here, I believe, is because we don’t realize God’s unfailing desire for us to know him. In knowing him, we learn to know our purpose for living.

St. Paul wrote to the Ephesians, “In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ” (1:11-12). God chose us; we are his beloved! He created us in his image. It was perfect and beautiful, and it was enough.

That is until we chose something other than him.

And the rest of history reveals what happens to us when we stop listening to God. We distract ourselves with the seemingly fascinating options for self-fulfillment that move us further and further away from God’s intention for our lives—always coming up short and dissatisfied. How may we return to the intention of God’s will for us?

We begin by silencing ourselves and our surroundings, which takes a herculean resolve in a distracted society. Reminding myself that Jesus often withdrew to a quiet place helps my resolution. Just think of what he can do when we retire from

our noisy surroundings to meet him there. His Word to us can pierce through our darkened understanding about ourselves to restore us to the intention of his will for us.

So, if we’ve silenced ourselves and inclined our hearts to God, then what do we do?

Socrates wrote, “An unexamined life is not worth living.” Examination of our life requires introspection, and we just aren’t comfortable with that, are we? St. Ignatius of Loyola developed a guide of spiritual exercises to help us examine our lives and discern God’s desires for us. In considering our lives, we allow the Holy Spirit to reorient the inclination of our lives toward God. We learn to know ourselves—strengths and weaknesses. We understand how our unique nature can “exist for the praise of his glory.” St. Ignatius provides a template, so to speak, for prayer called the *Suscipe* (the Latin word for “receive”) that will guide us in examining our strengths and weaknesses and giving them back to the One who created us the way we are.

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all I have and call my own. You have given all to me. To you, Lord, I return it. Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and grace; that is enough for me. Amen

Beginning the prayer with the word “take” assumes we will give up. What do I hold too tightly that needs surrendering to the Lord? What is the disposition of my heart? What does the essence of my heart incline me toward? Remembering the saying, “Everywhere I go, there I am,” is a good place for me to start when answering those questions.

Do I recognize a running theme in my conversations and relationships? Do I see a pattern of behavior toward others that repeats in every circumstance? I must stop and consider if disordered pride, fear or anger motivates my words and actions, dragging me further away from God’s intention.

What *liberties* do I take with myself and with others? What *memories* keep me from entrusting myself to the Lord? What do I have difficulty *understanding* about God, myself and others? Most of the confusion and conflicts we have in life come from our unwillingness to understand ourselves and others. The Holy Spirit is always faithful to affirm our strengths and counsel us in our weaknesses if we remain silent before him, desiring to seek God’s purpose above all.

This examination prepares us to entrust our *entire will* to him, where all questions about our existence are answered. St. Paul wrote to the Romans, “... be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect” (12:2).

What are we here for? Not ourselves. No, we are here for the praise of God’s glory. That is the abundant life worth living!

Go deeper

Consider reading St. Ignatius’ “Spiritual Exercises” to learn more about examining your life.

Father Michael Kapperman

Father Michael Kapperman is our featured priest this month. He was born in Hartford and has three brothers, two older and one younger. He was ordained May 29, 2020, and is serving as vocations director and Bishop O’Gorman Junior High chaplain.

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

During my junior year of college, I had a profound reversion back to the Catholic faith. In the spring of 2013, I was praying in the church at St. Thomas Aquinas in Madison. During that prayer time, I kept asking the Lord, “How do you want me to be your disciple?” He placed the idea of priesthood on my heart. During the next couple of months I ran from it, fought it and eventually prayed with that idea. Finally, in a moment of prayer, I was able to say to the Lord, “Jesus, I trust you.”

Q *What did you do before the priesthood?*

I wanted to be a high school math teacher, so I went to Dakota State University in Madison to obtain a degree in secondary math education.

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

Two things, first the Sacred Heart of Jesus, as in his heart we find the perfection of the human heart wedded to the Eternal Son of God. Second, I love the Church’s approach to education.

Q *Who was most influential in your life?*

I’d say my parents and grandparents. They embodied a life of virtue and prayer. Though not always perfect, they were great examples of these two things.

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

Bringing God’s mercy to individuals, especially in the sacrament of Confession.

Q *What’s the most challenging thing?*

Challenging people in their sins. Sometimes people don’t do what the Gospels teach us, and, in love, someone must challenge them. It is hard to know the right way to go about it.

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

St. Therese of Lisieux. She saw her whole life through the lens of God’s mercy. Her life was marked by confidence in and love of God. I turn to her often to help me in times of struggle.

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

I love going to high school sporting events, social events and working out.

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

I also have a degree in computer education.

Q *How can your parishioners and people of the diocese best help you be a great priest?*

First, give yourself radically to the love of God (i.e., become a saint and live a holy life). That is the greatest gift you can give to any priest. Nothing is more encouraging to a priest than to see his parishioners fall in love with Jesus.

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

St. Therese of Lisieux would be my first choice. Another individual I’d also like to talk to is Lou Gehrig.

Curious about a particular religious vocation? Visit sfcatholic.org/vocations to learn more about discerning God’s call for your life.

ABBHEY OF THE HILLS EXPERIENCES

a eucharistic revival



Bishop DeGroot presides over the process of preparing the tabernacle for the Eucharist.

By Marcus Ashlock

There is a power all Christians know and understand when we gather in Christ's name. He promises us that he will be in our midst when we congregate for him: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Mt 18:20). For Catholics who believe in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, not only is Christ there in a spiritual way, but he is also literally present with us at Mass or during adoration when he is displayed in the monstrance.

The one, true and living God makes himself available to us—beyond space and time, all over the world at once. It is one of the glorious miracles of our faith. Imagine believing it is only a symbol, not the True Presence, placing limits on God's ability to reach those who worship him.

This power brings a community of believers together, giving them a spiritual home through fellowship and faith. He is present in the reading of the Word; he is present as we gather in the Body of Christ, his Church; and he is present in a unique way in the Blessed Sacrament. More importantly, we know the power of his presence when it is gone.

Once known as Blue Cloud Abbey in Marvin, South Dakota, Abbey of the Hills Inn and Retreat Center recently received permission from Bishop Donald DeGroot to once again have the Blessed Sacrament kept at the Abbey. On March 17, 2023, Bishop DeGroot presided over the formal liturgical process of preparing the space for the tabernacle.

"Between my marriage, the birth of most of my kids, and

then my ordination, this event the bishop came up and did was one of the most holy events I've ever witnessed," said Deacon Paul Treinen, director of Abbey of the Hills. "He blessed the tabernacle and made the decree the Abbey would have it within its Catholic chapel."

The return of the Blessed Sacrament to the Our Lady of the Snows Chapel is a milestone for the Abbey. The Benedictine monks of St. Meinrad Abbey in Indiana had been traveling throughout the Dakota Territory since the 1870s, before South Dakota was even an official state. In 1950, they decided to build a permanent monastery near Marvin. Sixty-two years later, in 2012, the monks had dwindled to 14 men, with an average age of 79 years, and no new vocations in 15 years. Blue Cloud Abbey closed, and the Blessed Sacrament was consumed for the last time.

"It was a big grieving process because there were a lot of folks who found their spiritual home here, one that they wouldn't have found otherwise," Deacon Paul said. "Most of the people were Catholics, a lot of them were not Catholic. But it was their place to come and be in community, to have that peace and reflectiveness, to have that rhythm of prayer the monks would have."

According to Deacon Paul, the community was surprised at the suddenness of the closing, but also knew this was a special place, one whose presence was built around the Abbey. A group of people came together through prayerful discernment, ultimately listening to the Holy Spirit, and formed a nonprofit organization to purchase the Abbey.

Right: The Eucharist exposed for adoration.



Left: The interior of the chapel at the Abbey of the Hills.

“The process begins with prayer. I think it’s also letting the Lord reveal what he wanted us to do with this,” Deacon Paul said. “When we first opened, having the Blessed Sacrament wasn’t on our mind. We were just trying to figure out how we could pay our bills.”

Deacon Paul stated he approached the late Bishop Swain several times with priestly support, asking permission for the Blessed Sacrament to return to the Abbey. His answer was always, “It was not the right time.” A decade passed before God revealed his timeline to Bishop DeGroot. The Eucharist was to return to the Abbey in 2023. The community who lost their monks and the real presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament was to experience a renewal, a eucharistic revival.

“I just know the Lord’s using it and will continue to use it in a way that will be in keeping with our Catholic roots, but I’m also interested to see how this eucharistic revival might touch our non-Catholic brothers and sisters,” Deacon Paul said.



The Abbey of the Hills Inn and Retreat Center is open to all walks of faith, whether you like to write, hike, pray or play. To contact the Abbey of the Hills for your next event, visit them on their website at www.abbeyofthehills.org.

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As of 8/15/23

Do we need new friends?



HE SAYS:

Our friends are all parents of our kids' friends

Most of our friends were parents of our kids' friends. The only way we can have a social life is if we go to the high school football games.



SHE SAYS:

We need to branch out

It's time for us to move on - we need to get friends with shared interests.

It's not uncommon for parent friendships to spin off from the friendships of their respective children. But if you're in a situation where all the children have moved on—and maybe they're not even friends with each other anymore—and you don't particularly like going to high school football games, then, yes, it's probably time to re-evaluate these friendships.

For starters, ask yourselves this big question: Why even have friendships? The answer is equally big: We humans are social beings, made in the image and likeness of a social being—the trinity. Having friendships and a social life are essential to our fulfillment as individuals, couples, families and communities.

But this means more than just avoiding or getting out of shallow or toxic friendships. It also means choosing and keeping friendships for the right reasons. Friendships should primarily be about inspiring, strengthening and supporting one another in a shared effort to grow as children of God. And in this regard, sometimes even a satisfying friendship can be a problem.

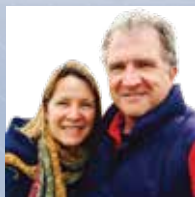
For instance, if a friendship is built

mostly upon a shared interest—like enjoying high-school football games and their side show of giant pretzels and marching bands—but it really has no other redeeming or higher purpose, then maybe it's time to quit that scene.

But maybe not. Let's say you're sensing that one of your shallow friendship couples is actually hurting and needs to be listened to and cared for. Keep in mind that the purpose of a friendship is not just to get your needs met.

To help re-evaluate your friendships, try reading the Book of Proverbs together. It's loaded with pearls like this one about true versus false friendships: "Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but many are the kisses of an enemy." (Prv 27:6)

Also, if you're not already doing it, get more involved, as a couple, with activities at your parish. Many parishes offer Bible studies, adult faith formation courses or marriage enrichment programs. In addition to the enrichment you'll receive from them, you'll meet other couples who want to live their faith as the foundation of their lives. Good friendships will naturally follow.



Steve and Bridget Patton hold master's degrees in theology and counseling and serve as family life ministers in the Diocese of Sacramento.



ABERDEEN – Randy and Mary Holsing will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Sept. 14. They have 3 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.



ABERDEEN – JB and Milli Bowen will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Sept. 15. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



BRIDGEWATER – Bernie and Rosalie Weber will celebrate their 65th anniversary on Sept. 3. They have 7 children (1 deceased), 14 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Stephen Parish.



FLANDREAU – Donald and Dolores Elverud will celebrate their 65th anniversary on Sept. 4. They have 5 children, 10 grandchildren (1 deceased) and 26 great-grandchildren and are members of Ss. Simon and Jude Parish.



HURON – Edwin and Kathy Irving will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Sept. 21. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of Holy Trinity Parish.



IPSWICH – Donald and Cathy Brintnall will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Sept. 22. They have 5 children, 23 grandchildren and are members of Holy Cross Parish.



MITCHELL – Chuck and Elaine Thuringer celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug. 17. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



MITCHELL – Ron and Cherie Scheich celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug. 25. They have 3 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of Holy Family Parish.



ROSHOLT – Frank and Dinah Konda will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Sept. 29. They have 7 children, 10 grandchildren and are members of St. John the Baptist Parish.



SIoux FALLS – Pat And Alan Bortnem celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug. 18. They have 3 children, 8 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael's Parish.



SIoux FALLS – Chuck and Joyce Edwards celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug. 31. They have 3 children, 9 grandchildren and are members of St. Therese Parish.



SIoux FALLS – Bob and Deb Winkels will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Sept. 9. They have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and are members of Christ the King Parish.



SIoux FALLS – Verlyn and Pat Johnson celebrated their 55th anniversary on Aug. 23. They have 3 children, 12 grandchildren and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



SIoux FALLS – Carl and Rosemarie Schlenker will celebrate their 60th anniversary on Sept. 28. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Lambert Parish.



SIoux FALLS – Ron and Joan Dunn celebrated their 60th anniversary on Aug. 6. They have 7 children, 17 grandchildren and are members of St. Katharine Drexel Parish.



SIoux FALLS – Al and Rose Smit will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Sept. 8. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Therese Parish.



VERMILLION – Francis and Doris Heine celebrated their 60th anniversary on Aug. 12. They have 11 children (1 deceased), 25 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Agnes Parish.



VERMILLION – Arden and Bridget Hanson will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Sept. 8. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Agnes Parish.



WESTPORT – Dennis and Corrinne Walworth will celebrate their 60th anniversary on Sept. 28. They have 5 children, 20 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild and are members of Sacred Heart Parish.



WOONSOCKET – Kelly and Cindy Larson celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug. 1. They have 3 children, 3 grandchildren and are members of St. Wilfrid Parish.

Benedictine Sister Diane Miller dies at 76

Sister Diane Miller, 76, of Mother of God Monastery died June 25, 2023, at the Village at Harmony Hill in Watertown. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 30 at Mother of God Monastery.

Diane Louise Miller was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on July 9, 1946, the oldest child of Lyle Glenn and Marian (Wilde) Miller. The family moved to several different locations in the ensuing years. She attended high school at Jesse Jones High in Houston, Texas, where she decided she wanted to become Catholic. After high school, Diane continued her education at the University of Houston, and, over the next 17 years, she worked at the

Houston Post, volunteered at the zoo and became active in parish life.

After discerning a call to religious life, Sister Diane entered Queen of Peace Monastery in 1987, professing her final vows on July 11, 1992. In 2002, the six remaining sisters of Queen of Peace discerned that it was time to close their monastery. After much discernment, Sister Diane transferred her vows of stability to the Watertown Benedictines in 2006. She was an active member for 17 years and served as the community archivist for most of them.

Sister Diane is survived by her brother Larry Miller from Pasadena, Texas.



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 Sept. 22 for inclusion in the November 2023 edition to:

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September 21-24
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October 5-8
November 2-5

SPECIAL RETREATS

Healing Retreats
October 13-15, 2023
Undone: A Healing Retreat
- directed by Father Scott Traynor in collaboration with The Lourdes Center

Couples Retreat
November 10-12, 2023
- directed by Father Scott Traynor

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.

September 12, 2023
When God Knocks
- An educational mini-series led by The Lourdes Center on the topic of emotional healing and faith.


October 10, 2023
Renovating the Heart
- An educational mini-series led by The Lourdes Center on the topic of emotional healing and faith.

November 7, 2023
A Glorified Wound
- An educational mini-series led by The Lourdes Center on the topic of emotional healing and faith.

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Faith, friends and fun are staples of summer Discipleship Camp

For many students, school has already begun and the memories of summer are becoming a distant dream compared to the many activities and tasks that lay before them. Now is a great time to refresh some of those memories of faith, friends and fun that occurred at this summer's Discipleship Camps held at Broom Tree Retreat Center.

Everyone who has attended these camps will tell you it's an unforgettable experience. These camps fill up quickly. Watch for next summer's camp registration here: sf catholic.org/youth/d-camp.



*Do you know what your child is learning in school?
We do....*



Prayer for Perseverance

Dear God, Help me to wait without complaining, to see You in my neighbor, and to let Your grace enter this moment so that I may not lose my patience. Amen



Contact our admissions at 605-575-3358 or admissions@ogknights.org for questions or to set up a tour.

Recitation of the Rosary

Friday, Sept. 1 – 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.

Under Mary’s Mantle

Sept. 12 – Expectant mothers and mothers of young children are invited to attend the Under Mary’s Mantle biweekly series of five meetings on topics of mothering during the early years beginning Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room at Holy Spirit Parish, Sioux Falls. Come for fellowship and information regarding pregnancy, nutrition and other mothering topics pertaining to Catholic motherhood. Refreshments served. Young children are welcome! For more information, contact Sandy Petree at umm6726@gmail.com or 605-421-1104.

Couples’ Conference

Sept. 22-23 – Mission Blueprint presents “Tighten the Knot” Couples’ Conference. It will begin on Friday night as a fun date night with wine and cheese, cake, dancing and fellowship, followed by a day conference on Saturday with keynotes and discussion on the love you chose, the love of God in the sacrament of marriage, and the oath you made to your spouse. Reconnect, refocus, recommit! For more info and to register, go to www.mission-blueprint.org.

Relic of St. Jude Public Veneration

Sept. 25 – Part of the arm of St. Jude will be available for public veneration at St. Katharine Drexel Parish, Sioux Falls, on Monday from 1-10 p.m. Mass will be offered at 7 p.m. St. Jude is known as the Apostle of the impossible because of his steadfast faith. Millions have experienced his profound intercession in times of adversity and need.

Dad’s Belgian Waffle Breakfast

Oct. 1 – Sioux Falls Serra Ministries will sponsor a Dad’s Belgian Waffle Breakfast from 8:30 a.m. until noon at Christ the King School gymnasium in Sioux Falls. All-you-can-eat waffles with toppings, sausages and beverages will be served. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit diocesan seminarian education. Takeout meals will also be available.

Sioux Falls Life Chain

Oct. 1 – The Sioux Falls Life Chain will be held Sunday from 2-3 p.m. on the north sidewalk of W. 41st St. between Western and Sertoma Ave. Life Chain occurs annually on the first Sunday of October. It is a unified statement affirming the sanctity of human life. It is a public, prayerful and peaceful witness against legalized abortion and the exploitation of mothers. It is held regardless of the weather conditions.

Rosary Coast to Coast 2023

Oct. 7 – The Rosary will be prayed Saturday at 3:30 p.m. on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph.

Fiesta Fundraising

Oct. 15 – The Perpetual Adoration Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament are holding a fiesta fundraising event from 1-4 p.m. at the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in Sioux Falls. Food, games, prayer and more will be offered. Everyone is welcome to attend. The monastery is located at 707 W 4th St. near the Cathedral of Saint Joseph.

Parish Mission

Oct. 23-26 – Risen Savior Parish, Brandon, will be holding a parish mission Oct. 23-26 from 7-8 p.m. each evening. It will be led by Sonja Corbitt, a veteran Scripture teacher and national speaker. Each evening will feature a different topic. All are welcome to attend.

Parish Dinners

Sept. 10 – St. George Parish, Scotland, will hold their annual Fall Supper from 4-7 p.m. Serving broasted chicken, baked ham, cheesy potatoes, salads and pies. A raffle will be held at 7 p.m.

Sept. 17 – St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Hoven, is holding their annual fall bazaar at the American Legion Hall in Hoven from noon to 1:30 p.m. Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, dessert and much more will be served. \$15 for adults and \$8 for children. Children 5 and under eat free.

Sept. 24 – Holy Rosary Parish, Kranzburg, will hold its annual roast beef dinner & bazaar at the Parish Hall. Serving from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Sept. 24 – Sacred Heart Parish, Westport, will hold their annual chicken dinner from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Takeout orders will be available by calling 605-226-3713.

Sept. 24 – St. Liborius Parish, Polo, will hold its annual bazaar in the Polo gym. A roast beef and turkey meal will be served from 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. There will be Bingo, kids’ games, raffles and much more until 4 p.m.

Sept. 24 – St. Peter Parish, Colman, will serve a roast beef dinner from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at St. Peter Parish Hall in Colman, with Mass at 11:15 a.m. This is a mission meal and open to the public.

Oct. 1 – Sacred Heart Parish, Yankton, will be having a parish dinner from 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Serving turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, desserts and more. Cornhole tournament, games and raffle! Carry-out meals available until 2:30 p.m. Use the alley access on the WEST side of the Community Center for carry-out.

Oct. 30 – St. Joseph the Workman Parish, Huntimer, will hold its annual soup and pie supper at Taopi Hall in Colton. Serving from 3:30-6:30 p.m., including a bake sale and country store.

Sacred Heart Monastery

Sept. 1 – Online *Lectio Divina* at 10 a.m., Fridays, Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. Meet online for *Lectio Divina*, a time for praying with the Gospel of the following Sunday. To register any time, contact group leader, Sr. Doris Oberembt OSB at doberembt@yanktonbeneditines.org. Include your email address.

Sept. 16 – Contemplative Mornings – meeting third Saturdays from 9-11:15 a.m. Contact Sr. Doris at 605-668-6022 or doberembt@yanktonbeneditines.org, or visit yanktonbeneditines.org/retreats-contemplative-mornings for more information.

Sept. 25 – Registration deadline for the 2023 fall Scripture Study. The Psalms, Part I, will be offered online at two times on Wednesdays, 9:30-11 a.m. and 7-8:30 p.m., led by Sr. Mary Jo Polak. Beginning on Oct. 4 and continuing for seven sessions, we will study, discuss and pray together, using the resources of the Little Rock Scripture Study. To register or for more information, go to yanktonbeneditines.org/retreat-center/scripture-study or contact maryjo.polak@yanktonbeneditines.org or 605-668-6292.

The Lourdes Center

A God Who Knocks – The Lourdes Center will be presenting a four-week series exploring the impact of emotional wounds and opening the door to God’s healing love. This series will be held on Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. beginning November 7. Register for this series at www.thelourdescenter.com. Please call 605-988-3775 with any questions.



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September 22-23, 2023

Old Sanctuary | Brookings, SD

Keynote Speakers:
Jonathan & Amanda Teixeira



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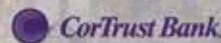
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