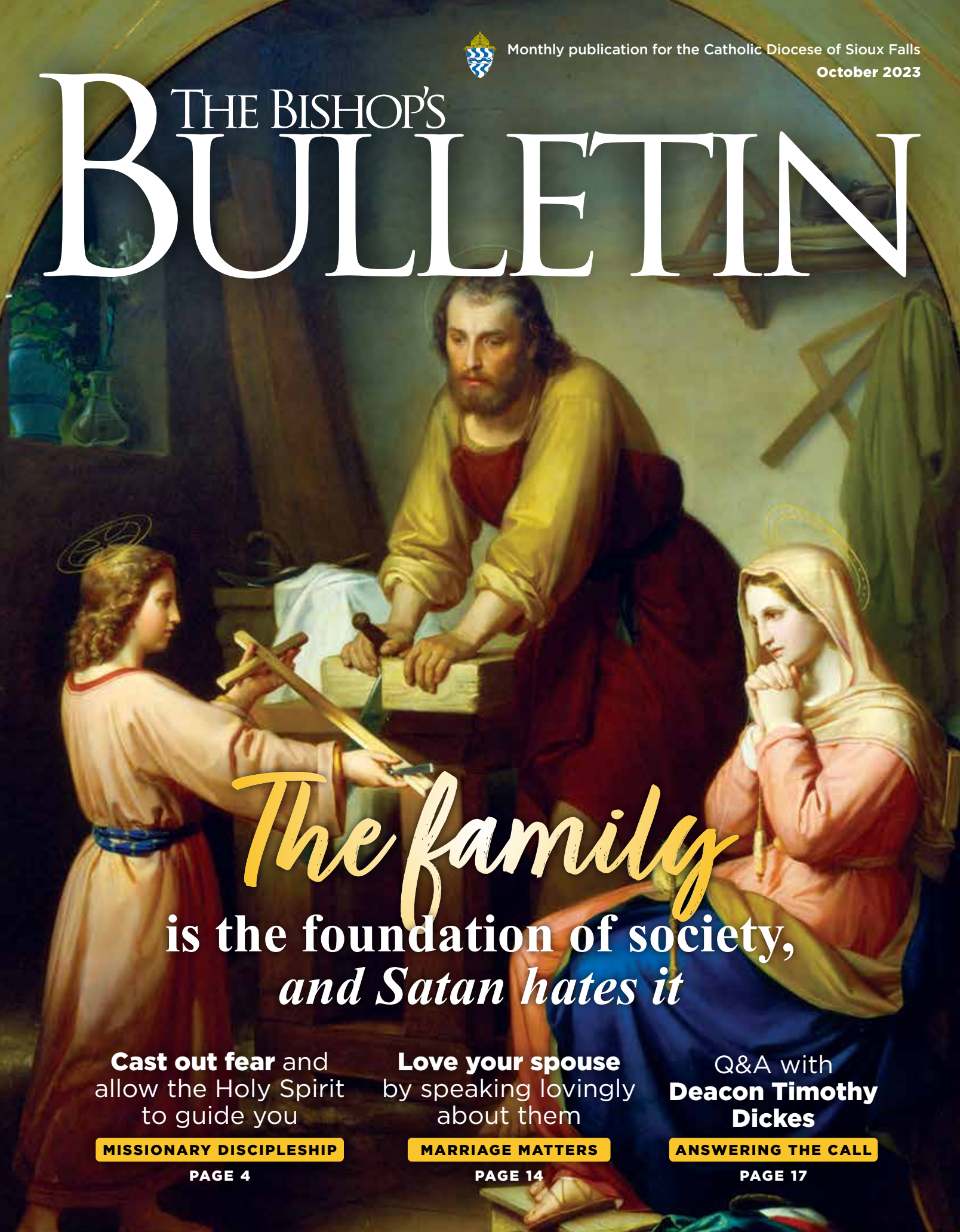




THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN



The family

is the foundation of society,
and Satan hates it

Cast out fear and allow the Holy Spirit to guide you

MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

PAGE 4

Love your spouse by speaking lovingly about them

MARRIAGE MATTERS

PAGE 14

Q&A with **Deacon Timothy Dickes**

ANSWERING THE CALL

PAGE 17

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

The family

is the building block of society



Throughout the summer in *The Bishop's Bulletin*, we have focused on the genius of God in creating femininity, masculinity and their complementarity to each other. God's beautiful creation of each as male and female, and the inherent complementarity and interdependence upon each other for healthy, happy and holy family life, reflect what is true, good and beautiful in God's design and intent.

This month, our feature story will focus on the family, why it is fundamental to our faith, and how our culture works against healthy family life.

When God the Father chose to send his son Jesus to earth through the Incarnation, he chose to do it in the context of a human family with Mary, his mother, and Joseph. This is no coincidence or happenstance, rather it is a manifestation of God's perfect plan for human flourishing through the marital commitment of Mary and Joseph, lived in interdependence of each other and Jesus.

Mary, as Jesus' mother with her uniquely feminine qualities, and Joseph, with his uniquely masculine qualities, lived healthy interrelations and interdependence as the Holy Family.

Each member of the Holy Family contributed to healthy complementarity, interdependence, selflessness, charitableness and flourishing of each other, their domestic family, extended family, neighbors, the common good of society and their faith community.

For example, Mary tended to the domestic needs of the home and family as she tended to day-to-day tasks as mother and spouse. Joseph's role included protecting the family from harm (Lk 2:13-15), providing sustenance for the family as a carpenter and as teacher of Jesus of the domestic trade of carpentry, manliness and fatherhood.

One of the documents of the Second Vatican Council, the "Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity" says, "This mission—to be the first and vital cell

of society—the family has received from God. It will fulfill this mission if it appears as the domestic sanctuary of the Church by reason of the mutual affection of its members and the prayer that they offer to God in common, if the whole family makes itself a part of the liturgical worship of the Church, and if it provides active hospitality and promotes justice and other good works for the service of all the brethren in need" (11).

While none of our families is perfect, we should always strive to live and love as the Holy Family did to the best of our abilities and circumstances. All the while, we should also strive to support those in difficult family situations through our prayer, outreach and fraternal charity to help everyone on the way to heaven.

May God bless all members of our families, and may we do all we can to protect, promote and preserve the dignity and rights of family life and its members.

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
- 10 - 12 Bishops Conference on Evangelizing Diocese
- 14 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 18 12:00 Catholic Community Foundation Investment Committee meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center
- 21 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*
- 24 - 25 Watertown deanery travel
- 26 - 29 Aberdeen - Pierre deanery travel
- 31 12:00 Diocesan Finance Council meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center

NOVEMBER

- 1 9:30 Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern SD executive meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center
- 2 Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern SD board meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center
- 3 4:30 All Saints' Day celebration for inmates and families, Mike Durfee State Prison
- 4 10:30 Confirmation for Sacred Heart and St. Benedict parishes, Yankton
- 4:00 Stational Mass, Cathedral of Saint Joseph*

*Broadcast on Keloland TV or livestream via sfcatholic.org

Inside October 2023

- 4 **MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP**
Cast out fear and allow the Holy Spirit to guide you
- 6 **FEATURE**
The family is the foundation of society, *and Satan hates it*
- 10 **DOES THE CHURCH HAVE AN ANSWER?**
How do I respond to those who say the Church is hateful?
- 14 **MARRIAGE MATTERS**
Love your spouse by speaking lovingly about them



- 17 **ANSWERING THE CALL**
Q&A with Deacon Timothy Dicks

- 23 **DIOCESAN EVENTS**

THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN

October 2023
Volume 77, Number 10

Publisher
Most Rev. Donald E. DeGroot

Editor
Renaë Kranz

Managing Editor
Casey Bassett

Theological Editor
Dr. Chris Burgwald

Graphic Design/Photography
Elise Heier

Social Media
Bianna Wingen

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

Cover image courtesy of Wikimedia Commons



President/Chief Executive Officer
Elizabeth Martin Solsburg

Art Director/Graphic Designer
Rachel Squibbs

Postmaster
Send address changes to:
523 N. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714

Correspondence should be addressed to:
523 N. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714

Phone: 605-334-9861

Email: cbassett@sfcatholic.org

Anniversaries and copy deadline for the December edition is Oct. 16; advertising deadline is Oct. 19.

The Bishop's Bulletin
(ISSN 0193-5089) is published monthly by the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls, 523 N. Duluth Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714. Periodicals Postage Paid at Sioux Falls, SD, and additional mailing offices.



Cast out fear

AND ALLOW
THE HOLY
SPIRIT TO
GUIDE YOU

By Shannan McQuade

In many places throughout the Gospels, we are reminded of our mission as baptized Christians to share the Good News to all ends of the earth. We hear in the Gospel of Matthew shortly before the Ascension, Jesus tells his disciples, “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Mt 28:19-20). It was Jesus’ desire that the very Church he founded would be shared to all corners of the earth.

Beyond the mere preaching of the Gospel, Jesus teaches early on that it is through our witness that others can come to learn about the Good News of the Gospel. We as baptized Christians need to be the ones who are sharing the joy and the goodness of our faith with those who we are surrounded by. However, there are times when conversations are necessary to communicate the truth and the beauty of the faith.

HOW?

The most authentic conversations about faith have been the ones that happen organically. With an organic conversation, there comes a certain openness in which the questions flow freely and without judgment. However, this is first dependent on an established, trusting relationship. Through this relationship, a space is created in which we are able to be witnesses to the joy of Christian living, and the other is able to experience our witness and ask questions as they arise.

When we approach discussing the faith with strangers, there are a few steps we must take first. First, we need to establish a genuineness about ourselves that shows them we care and are listening. Second, we need to approach the conversation in a manner in which the stranger has the space to freely share their personal experience with God and his Church.

Third, before preaching the Gospel to them, we first need to know where they are in their own faith journey. This helps us to gauge where they are in their relationship with the Church and allows us to approach with compassion and understanding. Approaching with compassion and understanding just furthers the foundation of trust in which they feel they have the freedom to ask questions.

WHAT IF I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER?

When it comes to discussing the faith with strangers or our family members, there is often a certain fear that we are either not qualified to speak on behalf of the Church or that we may not have all of the answers. While I can't tell you these fears are not legitimate, I can reassure you of a few things.

First of all, through the graces gifted to us in the sacraments, we are empowered to share the Gospel. As I've said, it is through our witness that we share the joys of Christian living. This is simply done by sharing the ways that we have encountered the goodness of God in our daily lives. Taking a step back to examine those times in which we have known of his love for us encourages us to share those times with others. Soon, people begin to see the tangible joy that Christians have through Christ and begin to desire that same joy.

Secondly, there is someone who knows the answer. It is perfectly acceptable to tell someone who may have questions about the faith that you do not know the answer. But, be encouraged to seek out the answer yourself and share it. There are plenty of knowledgeable people in our circles who could either provide the answer or point us in the right direction.

Truth and beauty will always win out, but do not be discouraged if the person you are having a conversation

with does not jump on board with what you are sharing right away. Continue to carry yourself with the truth and beauty of the Church in your heart, and your witness will always speak volumes.

CAST OUT FEAR

Finally, when sharing the faith, it can produce several fears in our hearts—fears of being wrong, fears of inadequacy, fears of rejection and so many more. However, I want to encourage you that the Lord sent the Holy Spirit to guide us always. Through the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, we receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit and the graces that guide us each and every day. As I was encouraged as a Confirmation student, discern which gift of the Holy Spirit you most need in your life, and daily ask for an outpouring of that gift.

As a college student working on the Benedictine College ministry team, our chaplain encouraged us to begin each day with a simple invitation to the Lord to bring to us those he wanted us to encounter that day: “Lord, interrupt my day.” That was it. That simple prayer invites the Lord to interrupt our plans with his so that we may bring his joy to those we met that day.

This past summer, many of our youth spent time learning about what it means to be bold in the faith at Discipleship Camp (D-Camp). Throughout the week, they reflected on the life of St. Peter, and specifically the passage from the Gospel of Matthew where Peter declares Jesus as the Christ. “He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter said in reply, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God’” (Mt 16:15-17). Peter had a personal encounter with Jesus and, through his abundant faith, he came to understand the truth of who Jesus was. He in turn, with boldness in trust in the Father, shares with his peers that truth.

We have all encountered Jesus in some way in our lives, probably for most of us, on the daily. It is our duty to boldly step out and share those encounters and to be open to questions about the love we have for our faith. Mary's last recorded words in Scripture come from the Gospel of John at the Wedding at Cana. She says to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you” (Jn 2: 5). We are reminded by our Blessed Mother that we must do what he tells us, and that is to share the Gospel and its truth and beauty.

I believe all too often we look at those who preach to the masses and write ourselves off because we could never reach that large of an audience or we don't have a radical story to share. However, our audience is composed of those we encounter daily in the “mundane” of life. And our radical story that we have to share is salvation won for us on the Cross.



THE FAMILY is the foundation of society, *and Satan hates it*

By Jake Geis

“I would never bring kids into this world,” is a sentiment among some adults. It’s not hard to understand their apprehension. Violence, hedonism, gender confusion, economic uncertainty and other issues are at the fore of our 24/7 news cycle. And it’s apparent the family is in the crosshairs of all of these maladies.

Yet, if there’s one thing Satan is good at, it is convincing us we should run from the very thing we need. God created humanity to exist as a family, in families. Since we’re made in his image and likeness, which is that of the Father and the Son existing in familial love so unfathomable that it is the person of the Holy Spirit, founding Christian families is an antidote to society’s ails. As it says in paragraph 1603 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “The well-being of the individual person and of both human and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of conjugal and family life.”

The foundation of society

The catechism’s assertion flies counter to modern Western culture’s obsession with individualism. Alec Weber, a

father of three young children and parishioner at St. Mark’s in Lake Andes, looks back to the fundamental laws of nature for a counterpoint.

“The law of entropy tells us this world moves from order to disorder, unless something is actively keeping it from doing so,” he says. “This is a great metaphor for families and marriage. Marriages require continual inputs of grace through the cooperation of the spouses. Marriages make up families, families make up communities, communities comprise nations, and nations create societies. As marriages go, the family goes and so goes the culture.”

This understanding provides Alec and his wife, Sierra, with a perspective that sees the bigger picture of their efforts as parents. “The mission field should be in Africa, we tell ourselves, not right in front of us. Yet, the primary mission field in marriage is the sanctity of the marriage and family itself. For example, a child that sees love from his or her father will better see the love God the Father has for that child as well. Because love accomplishes great things, if the families in our diocese strive to seek out what God is calling for them, our diocese will flourish.”

Since the family has such a positive influence, it should come as no surprise that Satan despises it. Father Shane Stevens (pastor of Pastorate 9, which includes parishes in Dell Rapids, Colman, Flandreau and Huntimer) expounds upon the many factors that drive Satan’s loathing of our families.

“Lucifer could not accept that God would enter into the world in the flesh with a human family,” Father Stevens said. “Since angels do not take on flesh, Lucifer hated this.”

And that God works through human families to bring forth new life is a double whammy.

“Lucifer hates that God cooperates with humanity in new creation,” Father Stevens continued. “Satan cannot have his own children; he can only tempt and draw souls from God. Yet, when a man and a woman embrace each other in love and intimacy, God blesses them with new life. It’s through the embrace of love that new life comes into the world.”



We contribute to the disruption of our families

Unfortunately, due to our fallen nature, we often ignore our higher calling to love and instead succumb to selfish desires. These failings may seem small or inconsequential, but their cumulative effect brings the resentment and bitterness that plagues families, which in turn poisons our culture.

“The little daggers, such as responding in anger or passive-aggressively to a slight, are what Satan wants,” Alec said. “They pick away at everything that is good in your home. It’s these subtleties that destroy a marriage, and thereby a family.”

Briana Mueller, parishioner at Holy Spirit Parish in Mitchell and a young mother, sees these stumblings play out with both the husband and the wife.

“Passivity is currently pervasive among men,” Briana said. “If the husband does not initiate and lead his spouse and family, that filters down to the children. The ramifications of these sins of omission and this leadership void are chaos and a disorderly environment in the home.”

To her, women are equally culpable in family troubles, and this can be seen in the secular culture’s vision for women.

“We [women] are told to not be

vulnerable and trusting, because you’ll get hurt,” she said. “Instead, grasp and initiate to prevent further wounds. Eve initiated and grasped in the garden in response to Adam’s passivity. Our image of a woman should be Our Lady, open and completely receptive. But the woman must feel safe under her husband’s leadership to be open and receptive. We must understand our role as man and woman before we can come together as husband and wife.”

The secular culture’s promotion of male passivity and rebuke of any feminine vulnerability clouds the meaning of the marital embrace. In Briana’s role as a FertilityCare practitioner, she finds it apparent that most couples have no understanding of what the marital act is. She describes it as a renewal of your wedding vows.

“On your wedding day, you vow to love one another freely, totally, fruitfully, faithfully,” Briana said. “Then on your wedding night, you profess those vows with your body, consummating your marriage, telling each other, ‘I give you my whole self, totally freely, fruitfully and faithfully.’”

The usage of contraception impedes these vows. “In using contraception, the marital act is no longer a total or fruitful act,” Briana contends. “It withholds an integral part of the marital embrace. It becomes a lie. We are now speaking one thing in our wedding vows and another with our bodies.

“Many of those who accept contraception condemn the concept that gender is malleable, and rightly so. Yet Pope Paul VI would instruct us that this is an outgrowth of tampering with the natural order of the marital act,” she continued. “As Catholic author and speaker Mary Lenaburg said, ‘When you kick God out of the bedroom, there is someone there waiting to take his place.’ That someone is Satan, and it’s obvious he is using our affinity for contraception to destroy our families.”

Alec, Marie,
Clare, Sierra
and Zelie
Weber.



Building up families in holiness

Between the “little daggers” spouses use to slice one another and refusing to fully partake in the marital embrace, the family undergoes significant harm. But with God, there is nothing that cannot be mended, though it will require sacrifice on our part to cooperate with his plan.

For Briana and her husband, Derek, that cooperation starts with preparing their children for a life of faith through Baptism.

“There has been a movement for a while to ‘dedicate’ children and let them choose Baptism later in life,” Briana said. “Jesus says, ‘... no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit’ (Jn 3:5). Without Baptism, we are leaving our children without the life of Christ dwelling within them. Without this participation in the divine life, our children are left unprotected from the one who steals, kills and destroys.”

Education in the faith then builds upon Baptism. For Briana, a primary focus is on teaching the children to pray.

“When I teach our children how to pray, I don’t simply teach them the

words to common prayers,” she said. “I mean teach them to recognize the Holy Spirit that dwells within them and how to respond. What has God given me and how do I respond?”

While challenging for those with small children, this includes teaching them the value of silence. “We must teach our children how to sit in silence and listen for the whisper of God’s voice,” Briana said. “Practically, this might look like sitting in a prayerful space in your home, lighting a candle, leading your family in the sign of the cross and starting with, ‘Speak Lord, I’m listening.’”

With a home life filled with family and personal prayer, children begin to understand the higher level of worship that happens in Mass and before the Blessed Sacrament.

“Take your family to Mass, take them to adoration, stop by the church while running errands to greet Jesus in the tabernacle, teach them how to seek Jesus,” Briana insists. “If we can teach our children to know the voice of God, the voice of the evil one will be easily detected.”

For parents with young children, the notion of little ones engrossed with the Eucharist may not be their experience in Mass. Rather, it may feel more akin

to wrestling with a few rabid weasels. Father Stevens exhorts couples to take heart—their efforts with little kids at Mass are making a difference.

“Bringing little children to church is never easy,” he admits. “But hang in there—you’re winning the battle by just showing up. It’s okay if you need to take the kids out of church because they are hungry, need a diaper change, etc. But make sure you bring them back into Mass, so they learn to appreciate the Mass.”

Catholic education adds to parental faith

As a pastor with experience at multiple Catholic schools, Father Stevens has seen how parents’ faith is the most instrumental factor in the children embracing their own faith.

“The Catholic school can be a great gift, but whenever you’re dealing with humanity, it can be a great disappointment as well,” he said. “When we think about what happened when Jesus came, he calls the Twelve Apostles by name and forms them himself. When he’s on the cross, almost all of them have left him. Our Lord knew that calling, forming and sending is hard work, and it’s not magic. It’s intentional.”

Being intentional requires one of the hardest parts about parenthood—looking in the mirror to make an accurate assessment of yourself.



Father Shane Stevens is pastor of Pastorate 9: Colman, Dell Rapids, Flandreau and Huntimer.

“Parents are the first teachers of their children in the ways of faith,” Father Stevens continued. “You teach them to tie their shoes and brush their teeth. Why can’t you teach them about Jesus? Is it because you don’t know him yourself?”

It comes down to recognizing our priorities. Father Stevens points out that where we are on Sunday morning, Wednesday night and throughout the week shows our children who is our God.

“If the parents are simply sending children to Catholic school or CCD programs, but not living this in the home or participating in the Mass, then you are catechizing them to be away from the faith,” he said.

But the inverse is equally true. “If the mission of a Catholic school is that our Lord is our Savior, Our Lady is to be loved, and if the families that use the school are serious about having faith in the home as well, something special can happen. It brings forth wonderful fruit,” Father Stevens said.

On offense, not defense, against Satan

This means while we shouldn’t ignore factors like student/teacher ratios, educational rigor and extracurricular activities in our schools, these must be subjugated to the foremost goal of leading children to Christ. Alec says this principle extends to the home as well.

“If sanctity is the goal, we need to recognize that we never sacrifice a greater good for a lesser,” Alec said. “What will we allow into our home? For example, if we ruminate on the 24/7 news stream so we can be ‘informed,’ what’s the result? Despair, anger, etc. This harms both our family and our prayer life.”

Alec sees his role as a father as the gatekeeper between the world and his children. “The culture may say you’re sheltering your children too much, or something of that ilk. But consider this example. A reasonable parent does not



Derek and Briana Mueller and their children Caleb, Ezra and Henry.

allow a child to play on the interstate, and if we truly believe the soul is more valuable than the body, shouldn’t we maintain the same or greater level of protection? Are we aware of the media, especially social media, and where it is pointing our children and ourselves? If something isn’t leading us closer to truth, goodness and beauty, then by default it is leading us away from God.”

Alluding to himself as a gatekeeper for his family does not lead Alec to believe that Christians should feel they are just holding down a bar on the door to the outside.

“Remember St. Peter was told the gates of hell will not prevail against us,” Alec reminds us. “So we are

called to attack Satan, not just play defense. And the way God chose to accomplish this when he entered the world is through a family. Therefore, imagine what a family on fire for Christ can do in this world!”

The ultimate weapon

The Christian family living in love is the ultimate weapon against the evil one. This family generates, multiplies and nurtures new life that insults and assaults Satan’s grip on this world. The light streaming forth from the heart of the Christian home squelches the darkness that sin has wrought upon the earth. So, take heart, young couples—bringing children into this world is your chance to be a part of something epic.

Prayer for the Family

Lord God, from You every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. Father, You are Love and Life. Through Your Son, Jesus Christ, born of woman, and through the Holy Spirit, fountain of divine charity, grant that every family on earth may become for each successive generation a true shrine of life and love.

Grant that Your grace may guide the thoughts and actions of husbands and wives for the good of their families and of all the families in the world. Grant that the young may find in the family solid support for their human dignity and for their growth in truth and love.

Grant that love, strengthened by the grace of the sacrament of marriage, may prove mightier than all the weakness and trials through which our families sometimes pass.

Through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that the Church may fruitfully carry out her worldwide mission in the family and through the family. Through Christ our Lord, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Amen.

-Pope St. John Paul II

How do I respond to those who say the Church is hateful?

Q

Sometimes when I've gotten into conversations with people about what the Catholic Church teaches, especially about issues like homosexuality and transgenderism, they tell me that the Church is hateful. How do I respond to the charge that the Catholic Church hates others?

A

Unfortunately, this is an all-too-common experience in our culture today. For a variety of reasons, including significant polarization and a decreased level of sound thinking in public discourse, real conversations in which people are respected while ideas are critiqued don't happen. Instead, we attack the person and ignore—or, more commonly, misunderstand and/or misrepresent—their positions.

More to the point of this question, we also replace real argument (in which ideas are exchanged, tested and critiqued) with labeling others and/or their positions with loaded terms like “hateful, bigoted, prejudicial” and so on, which, more often than not, do not apply to the argument at hand.

This important question provides a perfect example. It is indeed increasingly common for those who disagree with the Church's stance on any number of issues to dismiss Catholics as hateful, bigoted, etc. But to say as much is both to completely ignore what the Catholic Church explicitly teaches, and to change the meaning of terms like hate, phobic and bigoted.

To the first point: the Catholic Church follows the teachings of God himself (as we find in both the Old and New Testaments, and especially in the words of Jesus in the Gospels) and says that we are called to love *everyone*, for *everyone* is created by God on purpose and out of boundless love. So if the Church's teaching was *literally* that we are to hate certain people, we would be contradicting ourselves in an obvious and flagrant manner.

Now, it is true that the Catholic Church teaches that certain *actions* are sinful, i.e., that they are contrary to the way God created us. Therefore, when we commit these acts, we are limiting our true and ultimate happiness.

This gets to our second point: to say that certain *actions* are sinful is not to say that we hate the *people* who commit them. If someone were doing something that caused harm to themselves, to tell them as much is *not* an act of hate, but, to the contrary, is in fact an act of *love*.

Of course, it's important that we are able to explain to others why certain actions are harmful to those who commit them; it's not enough to just claim it ... we need to defend the claim. Fortunately, we can rest assured that because we

have been promised by Jesus that his Church will never teach error in her formal doctrines, these teachings *are* in fact true and therefore *can* be explained and defended. And we are blessed to be living in an age in which there are a vast array of resources available to us to help us better understand these teachings and help us explain them to others.

With all of this in mind, I'd propose responding to claims that the Church and/or her teachings are hateful by asking others to explain more what they mean. When others

say that "Catholics hate *such-and-such a group*," I find it effective to ask them what they mean by that, and to point out some of the things explained earlier, like the fact that to critique a harmful action is loving, not hateful.

It's also important to strive to be both loving and patient in conversations like these, because that witness serves to corroborate our words.

Through the words of St. Peter as found in 1 Peter 3:15-16, God calls all of us to always be ready to give an explanation for our beliefs, and to do so with patience, gentleness and respect. Let us not return anger or misunderstanding in kind, but bear witness to the truth in love.



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.

Stucco Repair	<p>MCR MID-CONTINENTAL RESTORATION CO., INC.</p> <p>Experts in Exterior Building Repair</p> <p>800-835-3700</p>	Mortar Joint Repair
Masonry Cleaning		Plaster Repair
Brick Repair		Clear Water Repellents
Stone Repair		Waterproof Coatings
Caulk Replacement		Painting
Structural Concrete Repair		

www.midcontinental.com

Find flexibility and fulfillment in your career

Become a Knights of Columbus insurance agent.

Contact us today to learn more:



Phil Carlson
Assistant General Agent
605-695-4793
philip.carlson@kofc.org



Cole Heisey
Field Agent
605-740-0273
cole.heisey@kofc.org



Thomas Bechen
Field Agent
605-770-9798
thomas.bechen@kofc.org



Adam Werkmeister
Field Agent
605-999-0743
adam.werkmeister@kofc.org



Matt Weller
Field Agent
605-450-6066
matthew.weller@kofc.org



Mark Di Santo
Field Agent
mark.disanto@kofc.org



Stephen Carrick
Field Agent
605-299-5150
stephen.carrick@kofc.org



Arom Burgueno
Field Agent
928-301-8529
arom.burgueno@kofc.org

LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES



Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus ("KofC") offers life insurance, annuities, long-term care insurance and disability income insurance products. For costs, terms, conditions and complete details regarding these products, please contact your agent directly or call KofC at 1-800-380-9995. Products may vary by state. Insurance solutions are available to eligible KofC members in the U.S. and Canada. Knights of Columbus is located at: 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510.



EMPOWER PARENTS WITH EDUCATIONAL CHOICE

By Michael Pauley

A national survey commissioned by EWTN last year asked Catholic parents with children in public schools, “Have you considered moving your children to a private or parochial school because of concerns about the quality of education?” Nearly half of parents (46.6 percent) responded in the affirmative.

The survey doesn’t provide a comprehensive answer for why parents feel this way, but it does offer some clues. For example, more than 75 percent of re-

spondents said they were opposed to allowing “biological boys who identify as girls” from competing against biological girls on school sports teams. Sixty percent said they were opposed to teaching “Critical Race Theory” in the classroom. Nearly 74 percent were concerned about the effects of the “COVID deficit” that has resulted in lost intellectual and social development among children. Over 64 percent felt that parents of K-12 students should help determine what is being taught in schools.

Public schools have become battlefields in the various cultural controver-

sies of our age, causing many parents to look for educational alternatives that are both academically rigorous and more likely to cultivate virtuous character traits in their children.

Public schools nationwide lost more than 1.2 million students during the first two academic years under the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a recent study by the Urban Institute. Yet, the same study found private school enrollment increased by 4 percent in the 2021-2022 school year and homeschool enrollment increased by an astonishing 30 percent.



PARENTS WHO HAVE THE PRIMARY AND INALIENABLE RIGHT AND DUTY TO EDUCATE THEIR CHILDREN MUST ENJOY TRUE LIBERTY IN THEIR CHOICE OF SCHOOLS.”

pense, and homeschooling typically requires at least one parent to forego income-earning opportunities to allow time for instruction.

The Church teaches that parents have a right to educational choice, and the state has an obligation to assist them in exercising that right. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) states:

“As those first responsible for the education of their children, parents have the right to choose a school for them which corresponds to their own convictions. This right is fundamental. As far as possible parents have the duty of choosing schools that will best help them in their task as Christian educators. Public authorities have the duty of guaranteeing this parental right and of ensuring the concrete conditions for its exercise.” (CCC 2229)

The Second Vatican Council’s “Declaration on Christian Education” (*Gravissimum Educationis*) likewise calls for government educational subsidies to be administered in a way that protects the choices of parents:

“Parents who have the primary and inalienable right and duty to educate their children must enjoy true liberty in their choice of schools. Consequently, the public power, which has the obligation to protect and defend the rights of citizens, must see to it . . . that public subsidies are paid out in such a way that parents are truly free to choose according to their conscience the schools they want for their children.” (par. 20)

In recent years there has been encouraging progress in the movement to advance parental choice in education.

According to the advocacy group Ed-Choice, there are now 78 educational choice programs in effect in 32 states. Eight states have enacted choice programs that are “universal” or “near-universal,” meaning that nearly all students in the state will qualify to participate, instead of limiting participation based on income level or other criteria.

South Dakota has a limited educational choice program: the South Dakota Partners in Education Tax Credit Program. Under the law, insurance companies

who donate to South Dakota Partners in Education are eligible for a tax credit, and the funds contributed are used to provide private school scholarships for students from families who qualify based on income. In the most recent school year, just over 1,500 students from 48 different private schools received scholarships. The average scholarship value was \$1,970. Although this program has

greatly benefited many families, there is an overall cap on the tax credits of \$3.5 million, which significantly limits both the number of students who can participate, and the amount of tuition assistance that can be provided to each student.

In 2023, South Dakota legislators considered, but did not pass, legislation that would expand parental choice in education. With the growing popularity of these programs across the country, it’s a virtual certainty this matter will come back before the South Dakota Legislature in 2024. Stay informed on these new developments by signing up for the South Dakota Catholic Conference email list at www.sdccatholicconference.org/sign-up/.



Michael Pauley is the executive director of the South Dakota Catholic Conference.

These trends are also reflected in Catholic schools. Following many years of steady decline, Catholic school enrollment nationwide increased by 3.7 percent in the 2021-2022 school year, followed by a 0.3 percent increase in 2022-2023, according to the National Catholic Education Association.

Despite these positive trends, it remains the case that many parents are unable to choose the education that best meets their children’s needs because of financial barriers. Private school tuition is a significant ex-

Love your spouse

BY SPEAKING LOVINGLY ABOUT THEM

By Mikaela Pannell

I cringe internally whenever I hear someone complaining about their spouse to others. You are your spouse's safe place. Their cheerleader. Their defender. That means both in their presence and when they aren't around. Speaking charitably of your spouse at all times is an essential part of a successful and holy marriage.

In the vows spouses take on their wedding day, they promise to love and *honor* each other all the days of their lives. I think that is the most overlooked part, especially in a world where people complain about pretty much everything. And I hear people complain about their spouses a lot. There is no human relationship more important than marriage, so it should be nurtured and protected. Speaking negatively about each other can only bring harm to it; there is no upside to trashing your spouse.

Ultimately, it comes down to trust and respect between spouses. I trust that my husband will have my back—not only when we're together, but also when we are apart. Likewise, he trusts that I will do the same for him. We respect each other very much, and that means we won't speak poorly of each other when we're at work or hanging out with friends.



It sets a standard for what is considered acceptable treatment. Think about it; if you don't respect your spouse enough to only speak about them in a loving way, it opens the door for others to speak poorly about your spouse, as well. Not only that, it also opens the door to gossip in general. That is a difficult door to close, indeed.

Now, I'm not saying that if there's a problem within your marriage you should just shoulder the burden silently. Jesus tells us that if we have an issue with someone, we should go to them first. This absolutely applies to our spouse! For example, if your husband has a habit of putting his clothes on the floor instead of the hamper, and it's really bothering you, bring it up to him. Not to your friends. Complaining about him can change the way he is viewed by others in a way that is not fair to him, especially if he isn't there to defend himself.



Mikaela Pannell and her husband Jordan with their two children, Melody and Titus.

On a more serious note, if your wife is in the throes of addiction or if the two of you are fighting all the time, you may not be able to work through it on your own. Treatment and/or counseling with a professional is an acceptable and sometimes necessary way to mediate conversation rather than just bashing your spouse.

Even in those situations, it is still important to be charitable toward your spouse. A regular human conversation often involves family life, and it's okay to discuss struggles with others. What makes the difference, though, is how you talk about the struggles. There's a difference between "our lawn mower is giving us trouble," and "ugh, my husband can't even get the mower to work." One of them presents you as a team with your spouse; the other tears them down. This can be challenging, because complaining is a really easy thing to do.

Frankly, speaking well of your spouse helps you get to heaven, and speaking poorly about them does the opposite. Gossiping and/or badmouthing people in general is sinful, but it's more serious when it's your spouse. That's because marriage is meant to reflect the love between Christ and his Church.

Christ loves his bride perfectly, so we as spouses have a high bar to strive toward. I'm no expert, but I'm pretty confident that Jesus doesn't gossip about us. Jesus is always looking to build us up. That is our calling as spouses.

Arguably, one of the most quoted passages in Scripture is 1 Corinthians 13:4. "Love is patient. Love is kind ..." It is *kind*. Talking about your spouse in a charitable way is how love is lived out kindly. Spouses are supposed to build each other up, and should be able to count on each other to do so. It would be incredibly hurtful if my husband

were to walk in on me speaking badly about him, and it would take a toll on our marriage because it would make it difficult for him to trust me. It would also make it much easier for Satan to sow seeds of doubt in my husband's mind regarding my love and commitment.

We live in a society that really enjoys gossip and complaining, and it can be quite a challenge to not get sucked in. But we are called to be different and stand against the current. Striving for a holy marriage is definitely not for the faint of heart, but it is worth every moment. If you're looking for a simple way to improve your marriage, start by making a conscious effort to only speak lovingly of your spouse.

And anyway, as my parents always used to tell me, "If you don't have something nice to say, don't say it at all."

We want to hear from you!

The team that produces The Bishop's Bulletin every month works hard to bring you interesting, faithful and inspiring stories to help you grow in your Catholic faith. We hope we "hit the nail on the head" with stories you want to read in every issue.

Now we want to hear your thoughts about the content we provide here and in other formats. We've developed a survey to help us get to know you better and to understand what you like and need. We will use the information to focus our efforts and continue to improve this magazine and other content such as videos, podcasts and social media content.

To complete the survey and have your voice heard, scan the QR code on this page or visit the website <https://www.sfcatholic.org/2023survey>. It won't take long, but it will really help us out! Tell your friends and family to complete the survey as well, even if they don't read the Bulletin. We want to know what they think, too! Be sure to complete the survey by Oct. 31.

This month is also our volunteer subscription drive for The Bishop's Bulletin. This drive enables those who really love the Bulletin to donate directly to its production, which helps us continue to deliver well-written stories every month. You will find a donation envelope tucked in this issue. Donations are accepted by mail or by scanning the QR code on the envelope.



Thank you for your loyal readership and for your continued support.



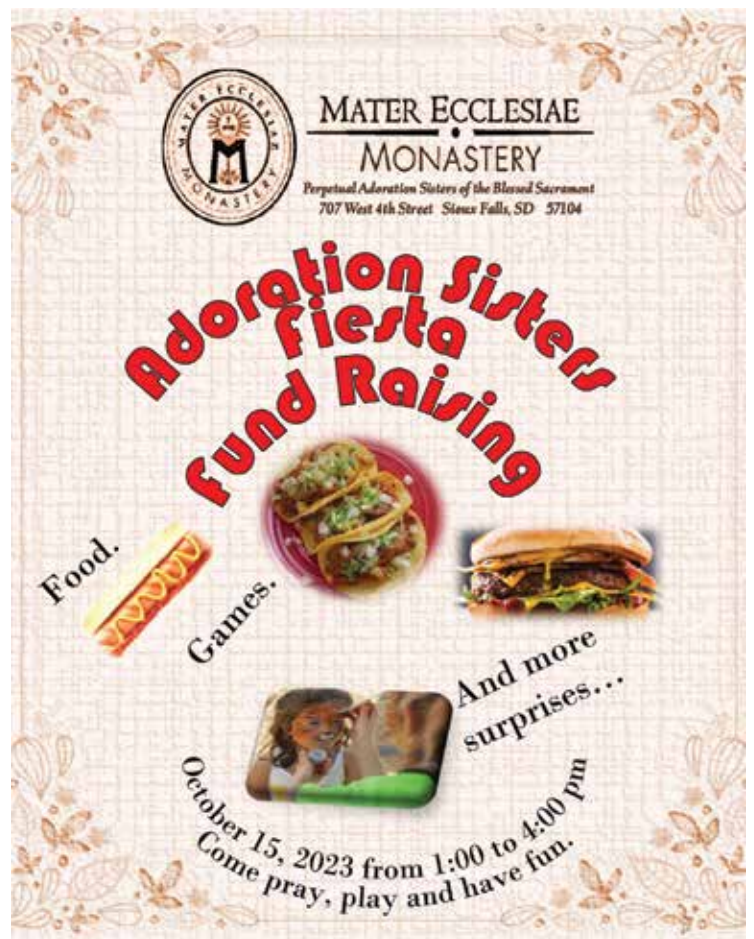
Hours:

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

Location:

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

605-271-4055





Deacon Timothy Dickes

Deacon Timothy Dickes is our featured deacon this month. He was born near Laurel, Nebraska, and grew up on a dairy farm with one brother and three sisters, one of whom is deceased. He was ordained on May 24, 2018, the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians. He is currently assigned to the Cathedral of Saint Joseph and prison ministry.

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

There were a number of people asking me if I thought about becoming a deacon, including my parish priest. Each response to them was, “No, I am not being called to be a deacon!” This went on for a few years, until a good friend and I were doing a Bible study one morning. He had a funny look on his face. I asked him what was up? He said, “God spoke to me at Mass this morning.” I asked him what God said. He pointed at me and said, “He wants you to be open to becoming a deacon.” He knew nothing of the others asking me. It felt like I was hit between the eyes with a two-by-four! It was then I knew I needed to at least look into it.

Q *What did you do before the diaconate? (or during the diaconate if you had/have another job)*

I worked for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Yankton for 21 years, with the last 15 years as the facility manager. I retired in 2009 and then moved to Sioux Falls that fall to marry my wife Julie. I started a handyman business, which led into working as a contractor renovating apartments.

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

Mystical theology and studying the lives of the saints.

Q *Who was most influential in your life?*

I would have to say my parents, Norbert and Elizabeth Dickes. They were a true witness of living a sacramental

marriage and living a wholesome rural life as dairy farmers. Dad and Mom were very faithful, devout Catholics who loved and shared their faith with their family. They were prayer warriors!

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

My favorite part of being a deacon is serving at the altar. It has been a privilege to be assigned to the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, the Mother Church, serving with our bishop and the many fine priests and deacons who have been assigned there.

Q *What’s the most challenging thing?*

Balancing my first vocation of marriage to Julie and being a father and grandfather while serving my liturgical duties as deacon at the cathedral, and the prison/jail ministry can be a challenge. It is God’s grace and prayerful discernment that help me keep things in check.

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

St. Brother Andre Bassett. As I started formation, my spiritual director at the time encouraged me to take 30 days to pray for a saint to be the patron of my diaconate. About two weeks into praying, as I woke one morning, Brother Andre’s name came to mind. I had heard of him but knew little about him. In doing research, I totally understood why he offered to be my patron. He loved St. Joseph. Julie and I made a pilgrimage to Montreal to the St. Joseph Oratory that he built, prayed at

St. Brother Andre’s tomb, venerated his incorrupt heart and experienced many aspects of his life.

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

I love to go camping and riding my recumbent trike on bike trails in the surrounding states with Julie.

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

I am a tech school dropout. After that, I started to work for a commercial electrical company and held a journeyman electrician license for 30 years.

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

Pray for Julie and I as we minister to those incarcerated in the jail and prison. Even though it can be heavy, by God’s grace and mercy, we see many miracles of conversion.

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

St. Joseph. He was a carpenter, so we are like-minded in that way. But even more so, I would love to hear his stories about Jesus and Mary and his humble obedience.

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

Presentation Sisters



The Children Are Asking by Sr. Mary Southard, CSJ, www.ministryofhearts.org. Used with permission.

“We can’t heal the world today but we can begin with a voice of compassion, a heart of love, an act of kindness.”

Mary Davis

To discover more about the Presentation Sisters visit: www.presentationisters.org
 Facebook: [Presentation.Sisters.Aberdeen](https://www.facebook.com/Presentation.Sisters.Aberdeen)
 We invite you to send your prayer requests to: wepray4u@presentationisters.org



SILENT RETREATS

Men’s Silent Retreats

November 16-19

Women’s Silent Retreats

October 5-8

November 2-5

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.

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.

December 5, 2023

Advent Prayer with Handel’s Messiah

- A one day retreat led by Father Steven Jones.

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

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

REGISTER FOR
 RETREATS ONLINE

broom-tree.org

Visit sfcatholic.org to find new ways to strengthen your faith and learn more about your Catholic diocese



What you’ll find

- The various ministries of the diocese
- Mass times
- Upcoming events
- Podcasts like Ignition, Leedom to Life and Faith & Politics
- “Can We Be Saints?” blog
- Fresh news from around the diocese
- The Bishop’s Bulletin online edition
- Catholic Views radio program

Give us a shout!

sfcatholic.org // [@sfdiocese](https://twitter.com/sfdiocese)



Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls



BRITTON – David and Linda Deutsch celebrated their 50th anniversary on Sept. 15. They have 4 children, 7 grandchildren and are members of St. John de Britto Parish.



CANTON – Lyle and June Devitt will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Oct. 6. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren and are members of St. Dominic Parish.



DIMOCK – Tim and Millie Wermers celebrated their 55th anniversary on Sept. 14. They have 3 children, 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild and are members of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish.



ESTELLINE – Arlo and Christine Morris will celebrate their 25th anniversary on Oct. 9. They have 2 children and are members of St. Francis de Sales Parish.



IPSWICH – Terry and Lynda Braun will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Oct. 6. They have 2 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of Holy Cross Parish.



KRANZBURG – Richard and Marita Sturm celebrated their 50th anniversary on Sept. 29. They have 6 children, 19 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren and are members of Holy Rosary Parish.



KRANZBURG – Al and Heather Crocker will celebrate their 25th anniversary on Oct. 10. They have 2 children and are members of Holy Rosary Parish.



MILBANK – Ken and Julee Hermans celebrated their 55th anniversary on Sept. 14. They have 3 children, 9 grandchildren and are members of St. Lawrence Parish.



REVILLO – Marty and Kathy Novy will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Oct. 13. They are members of Annunciation Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Claude and Mary Summers will celebrate their 55th anniversary Oct. 12. They have 7 children, 12 grandchildren and are members of Holy Spirit Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Ken and LaVonne Gaspar will celebrate their 60th anniversary on Oct. 12. They have 4 children (1 deceased), 12 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Jerry and Darlene Delker celebrated their 65th anniversary on Sept. 30. They have 7 children, 17 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Merle and Betty Jean Ankrum will celebrate their 70th anniversary on Oct. 24. They have 6 children, 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Michael Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Jim and Marilyn Honermann celebrated their 55th anniversary on Sept. 21. They have 4 children, 12 grandchildren and are members of St. Mary Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Jerry and Janet Ackerman will celebrate their 65th anniversary on Oct. 25. They have 4 children, 10 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and are members of St. Therese Parish.



SIOUX FALLS – Gary and Bev Chase celebrated their 50th anniversary Sept. 3. They have 3 children and 5 grandchildren and are members of St. Michael's Parish.



TEA – Mike and Rosie Reker celebrated their 55th anniversary on Sept. 28. They have 3 children, 4 grandchildren and are members of St. Nicholas Parish.



TYNDALL – James and Elsie Osienger celebrated their 50th anniversary on Sept. 24. They are members of St. Leo the Great Parish.



WATERTOWN – Todd and Mary Thoennes celebrated their 25th anniversary on Sept. 19. They have 2 children and are members of Holy Name of Jesus Parish.



WHITE LAKE – Don and Rhonda Bies celebrated their 50th anniversary Sept. 1. They have 5 children, 7 grandchildren and are members of St. Peter 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 Oct. 16 for inclusion in the December 2023 edition to:

The Bishop's Bulletin
523 N. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
or email to: bwingen@sfcatholic.org.



Officials of the Diocese of Sioux Falls

Since the most recent publication of The Bishop's Bulletin:

Most Reverend Donald E. DeGrood has granted the full pagella of priestly faculties to **Reverend Edward Zemlik, SCJ** at the request of the religious superior of the United States Province of the Priests of the Sacred Heart, and in accord with the attestation of his good standing with his religious community. Father Zemlik will be substituting for Reverend Hendrik Christianus, who will be on sabbatical until September 2024. Father Zemlik has been assigned by the provincial of the United States Province of the Priests of the Sacred Heart to the pastoral team serving the parishes of St. Joseph (Ft. Thompson), St. Catherine (Big Bend) and Immaculate Conception (Stephan) effective Sept. 1, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Thad Pals, Chancellor



Create the perfect
COSTUME
at SVDP



Your purchase allows us to help those in need

431 N. Cliff Avenue • Sioux Falls, SD 57103 • 605-335-5823
Open Monday through Saturday 9-5
All donations are tax deductible.

A God who
knocks

A four week series exploring God's power to heal and restore.

INCLUDES PRESENTATIONS, REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

TUESDAYS FROM NOVEMBER 7- NOVEMBER 28
6:00PM-8:00PM

MATER ECCLESIAE MONASTERY
707 W 4TH ST, SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104
FREE WILL OFFERING



THELOURDESCENTER.COM

Parish Mission with Sonja Corbitt



Events

Parish Mission

Oct. 23 - 25 | 7 P.M. - 8 P.M.
Risen Savior Catholic Church
Brandon, SD 57005

Theology on Tap

Oct. 26 | 7 P.M. - 8 P.M.
Tailgator's
Brandon, SD 57005

Topics Include

- Her Story of Conversion
- Eucharistic Revival
- Freedom from Anxiety
- "Fulfilled: Biblical Foundations of Catholicism."

"Sonja connects the power of the Bible to everyday life experiences."

-Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers,
EWTN Host & Author

"We all desire to be led by God, Sonja shows you how. Very Refreshing!"

-Jeff Cavins, The Great Adventure
Bible Study Co-Author



To learn more about Sonja Corbitt and to explore her content scan the code or visit biblestudyevangelista.com

By Sister Ann Shield

During October, we celebrate some significant feast days: St. Therese of the Child Jesus (1), Guardian Angels (2), St. Francis of Assisi (4), Our Lady of the Rosary (7), St. Teresa of Avila (15), St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (16), St. Luke (18) and Sts. Simon and Jude (28).

Each saint reflects some particular aspect of God for us; their lives are intended to encourage us, guide us and inspire us to live for God. I am going to suggest we pay close attention to two of them this month: St. Therese of the Child Jesus and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque.

ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS

Therese loved the saints and wanted to be one. She wanted to be a missionary, yet knew God was calling her to the cloister. Instead of just dreaming about being a missionary saint, she allowed God to form her as he wanted. So, first, she submitted to God's plan for her life.

Then, as she entered into a more mature spiritual life, she realized how little and helpless she was to imitate the great saints, as she saw them: Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross. So she asked Jesus' arms to be her elevator, to lift her up to God, the Father.

In a very simple, child-like, humble spirit, she kept asking God for help, as a child would ask a loving parent. And God did not fail her! Her trust became so unbounding that, on her death bed at 24, when she was corrected for an irritable response, instead of falling into understandable self-pity, she just rejoiced: "O, another opportunity to ask forgiveness and rely on the mercy of God!" Her path to sanctity became known as the "Little Way." She showed how accessible true holiness can be for each one of us.

Pause and reflect: How can you grow in child-like obedience to God? During October, ask St. Therese to help that you, too, might follow her example.

ST. MARGARET MARY ALAOCQUE

St. Margaret also was a French religious sister, but she was very different from St. Therese. Sister Margaret Mary lived in the 1600s. Christ appeared to her frequently, acting himself as her spiritual director and confiding to her the mission of establishing devotion to his Sacred Heart. It was St. Margaret Mary who began the practice of a holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament and the first Friday devotions. Jesus himself called her the beloved disciple of his Sacred Heart. In showing Margaret Mary his burning heart, Christ said, "Behold, this heart which has so loved men and is so little loved in return."

In the midst of all these powerful revelations, she experienced the disbelief of her community and superiors, which led to tremendous suffering that she endured in humility and charity, offering it that God's love might be known.

In today's world, most of us, even strong Christians and Catholics, do not begin to comprehend the love that God has for each one of us.

St. Margaret Mary suffered much—mentally, emotionally, physically—to proclaim the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus for each one of us.

Pause and reflect: I encourage you to read a good biography of both St. Therese and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. Both men and women can benefit from the lives of these two saints. God offers them to us to widen our vision, to receive encouragement and wisdom to run on the path to holiness—and to run, so as to win!

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES:

Ponder these Scripture passages:

Matthew 18:1-4

"At that time, the disciples came to Jesus, saying, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them, and said, 'Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.'"

And John 14:15-21

"If you love me you will keep my commandments. And I will pray to the Father and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him for he dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me; because I live you will live also. In that day, you will know that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me; and he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

Experience an outpouring of eucharistic grace in person



The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops initiated the Eucharistic Revival in response to the alarming

number of Catholics who no longer believe in the true presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. It can be tempting to feel like the work of bringing people back to this truth is something best left to bishops and priests.

However, the most effective way to pass on truth is through example—by living it. In this way, the laity, more so even than the bishops and priests, can bring lost Catholics back to the truth that our Lord is present—body, blood, soul and divinity—in the Eucharist. Speak about the truth of the Eucharist, model what you believe when you're in the presence of the Eucharist, and share the graces you have received from the Eucharist. These three actions are the most effective way to revive the truth in the hearts of Catholics. In essence, you become a eucharistic missionary.

In an effort to spark these eucharistic missionaries, the Revival will feature the first Eucharistic Congress in nearly 83 years. This once-in-a-lifetime event will be held at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Indiana, on July 17-21, 2024. It will feature national and world-renowned speakers and the opportunity to experience the presence of our Lord with 80,000 other Catholics.

Because our diocese needs men and women who, through living their faith, bring the truth of the Eucharist to those around them, the diocese is offering tickets to the event at nearly \$100 off the regular price. These tickets are for adults only; groups with children can purchase tickets at a lower cost through the Eucharistic Congress website. For more details about this opportunity, visit sfcatholic.org/eucharisticrevival.



PROTECT YOUR LOVED ONES AND CREATE YOUR LEGACY

Join us for National Estate Planning Awareness Week: **October 16-23, 2023.**
Visit our website to see what we have planned this year!



Visit www.ogknights.org/giving/national-estate-planning-awareness-week to find out more.

Recitation of the Rosary

Friday, Oct. 6 – 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.

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.

40 Days for Life fall kickoff rally

Oct. 8 – The 40 Days for Life fall kickoff rally will be held at 7 p.m. on Sunday at Sioux Falls First church. The guest speaker will be Rebecca Kiessling, an international pro-life speaker and attorney who conceived in rape.

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.

Bringing Christ to the Imprisoned

Oct. 17 – Special guest speaker Jeff Alvey will discuss the Residents Encounter Christ (REC) program that focuses on letting go and letting God on Tuesday beginning at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary Parish in Sioux Falls. Jeff will also give his insights on the prison system and its impact on individuals. Jeff and his wife Sherri have been active REC volunteers for almost 20 years. There is no charge and registration is not required.

Parish Mission

Oct. 23-26 – Risen Savior Parish, Brandon, will be holding a parish mission 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.

Craft Fair

Oct. 28 – St. Lambert Parish, Sioux Falls, will host a Craft Fair on Saturday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission is free. Food concessions will be available.

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.

Parish Dinners

Oct. 8 – St. Boniface Parish, Idylwilde (28703 444th Ave. Freeman, SD), will have its annual fall supper from 4-7 p.m. Serving pork chops, cheesy hashbrowns, corn, salads, desserts, buns and beverages.

Oct. 29 – St. Mary Parish, Salem, will hold its Fall Festival in the parish hall from 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. There will be bingo, paddle wheel and kids games.

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.

Nov. 5 – St. Thomas More Parish, Brookings, will hold its parish dinner from 10:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Serving turkey, dressing, potatoes and much more. Carry-out meals are available. Tickets will be available at the door or in advance at the parish office.

Sacred Heart Monastery

Oct. 4 – First meeting for our fall 2023 online Scripture study. Late registrations are accepted if you obtain your own books. The topic will be the Psalms, Part I. Each session will be offered twice. One group will meet on Wednesday mornings, 9:30-11 a.m.; the other, Wednesday evenings, 7-8:30 p.m. Led by Sr. Mary Jo Polak. Seven sessions, beginning Oct. 4. To register or for more information on ordering materials, go to yanktonbeneditines.org/scripture-study or contact maryjo.polak@yanktonbeneditines.org or 605-668-6021.

Oct. 6 – Online *Lectio Divina* at 10 a.m., Fridays, Oct. 6, 13 and 27. 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.

Oct. 28 – Contemplative Mornings – Usually meeting on the third Saturdays, from 9-11:15 a.m. Contact Sr. Doris at 605-668-6022 or doberembt@yanktonbeneditines.org. yanktonbeneditines.org/retreats-contemplative-mornings.

Silent Personal Retreats – Reserve space for your silent private or directed individual retreat. Vaccination and boosters required. Contact us at yanktonbeneditines.org/silent-personal-retreats or 605-668-6292.

Spiritual Direction – Reflect on your experience of God with a 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@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 Nov. 7. Register for this series at www.thelourdescenter.com. Please call 605-988-3775 with any questions.

Mater Ecclesiae Monastery

Public Eucharistic Adoration:

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

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

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

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

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



JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS

7:30AM - 1510AM KMSD - MEBANK
8:00AM - 1320AM KELO - SIOUX FALLS
8:30AM - 94.5FM KGWD - SIOUX FALLS
8:30AM - 91.3FM KSTJ - HARTFORD
9:00AM - 88.9FM KSJP - ABERDEEN
9:30AM - 930AM KSDN - ABERDEEN

OR ANYTIME ONLINE AT SFCATHOLIC.ORG/CATHOLIC-VIEWS



THE BISHOP'S BULLETIN



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

27TH ANNUAL The Cathedral of Saint Joseph's

Christmas at the Cathedral.



BENEFITING



Proceeds benefit the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House and the Cathedral of St Joseph ongoing care and maintenance endowments.

PRODUCED BY



"The Heavens Declare"

FEATURING

ACTOR MARK CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE
FEMALE SOLOIST SHELLY JENNINGS

MALE SOLOIST CARLOS SANTIAGO
DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR DAN GOELLER

SIX PERFORMANCES



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14TH | 7:30 PM SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16TH | 1:00 PM & 7:30 PM
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH | 7:30 PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH | 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM

FOR SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS

www.ccfesd.org
(605) 988-3765